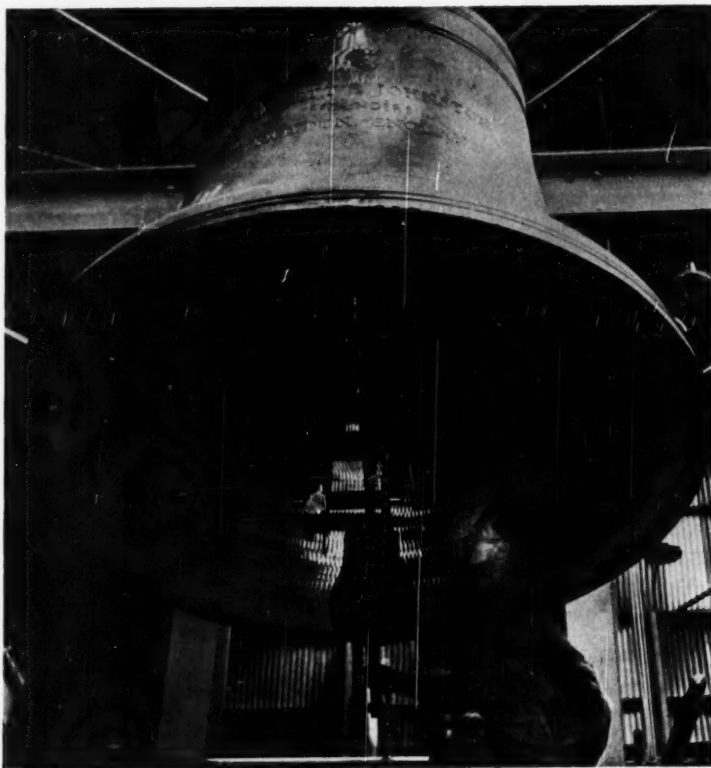


Sermons on Marriage, the Home and Divorce

■ CHURCH ■ MANAGEMENT



Illustration, courtesy British Information Services

ADJUSTING THE TONGUE

The adjustment of the tongue or clapper of the bell is a skilled, delicate operation. The picture shows the work being done in the foundry of the famous English firm, The Croyden Bell Makers.

**SEPTEMBER
1950**

**VOLUME XXVI
NUMBER ELEVEN**



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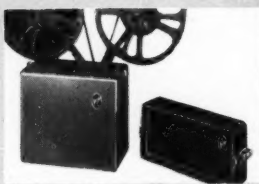
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* * *

The evidence of our faith is not the creed we profess to hold, not the body of opinion which we think we accept with the mind, not the principles to which we render lip service, but the actual thing or attitude to life to which we are committed.

* * *

Some of the mechanistic, the deterministic and the humanistic philosophies are creeping out of the modern world simply because they cannot make good on their promise to give meaning to life apart from, and without God.

* * *

Christians often make the mistake of forcing all their attention upon needs rather than upon him who is able to supply our needs: when we concentrate upon the temptation from which we seek deliverance rather than our deliverer.

* * *

Many of us can stand with complacency any amount of criticism directed against others; it is only when it is directed against ourselves that we become indignant.

* * *

The Christian is one who seeks to realize a divine ideal.

* * *

It is well to be busy, but there is such a thing as being too busy. You are going too fast if you have no time for friends, your home, your church.

* * *

Sin is always an abnormality.

* * *

Generally the fellow who thinks others are holding him back, is merely rumbling along with his brakes dragging.

* * *

The over ambitious man seeks to cover life's highway rapidly; but the wise man travels more slowly with a sense of appreciation.

* * *

Christianity is not something that we need to lug along and carry. It should carry us, putting a lift and a buoyant spontaneity into life.

* * *

One of the bewildering facts of history is that men who burn to witness and advance great purposes soon find themselves in a minority.

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THE EDITOR'S DRAWER

Churches Should Care for Servicemen

During the first and second world wars the solicitude of the churches for the servicemen was a tremendous help in sustaining the morale of the boys in the armed forces. The present day indifference of the churches to these men brings severe criticism upon us. The uniform no longer appears a badge of honor. Soldiers feel the hostility of the towns near the camps and change to "civies" as they have opportunity.

No matter what one thinks of the moral purpose of the Korean war, we have a definite responsibility to the boys who bear the brunt of the burden. We hope that machinery can soon be put in motion so that, again, our churches can offer the social and spiritual contacts so vital.

The only excuse we have heard for the failure of the churches is that the war started in the vacation season when the administrative techniques if not the social consciousness of the churches take a vacation.

Or we might ask the United Nations for legislation to prohibit the outbreak of wars during the summer months.

William H. Leach

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Ministerial Oddities

Collected by Thomas H. Warner

In 1869 the first collegiate football game in America was played between Rutgers and Princeton. A group of students were yelling and pushing each other over the field. A Rutgers professor was shocked. He shook his umbrella and shouted, "You will come to no good Christian ends." But he was mistaken, seven of the Rutgers players became ministers.

* * *

Rev. J. Frank Norris, minister of the First Baptist Church of Forth Worth, Texas, and the Temple Baptist Church of Detroit, Michigan, sued Time, Inc., publishers of *Time* magazine, for \$250,000 damages. The suit was filed in United States District Court. It alleged that Dr. Norris was libeled in the May 19, 1947 issue. The suit was based on the magazine's account of the proceedings at a Baptist Church Assembly held in St. Louis on May 6.

* * *

The Haverill, England, Town Council decided to keep its swimming pool open on Sundays, over the protest of Rev. E. A. Graves. He argued that the pleasure-loving "continental Sunday" was a hallmark of "countries that have gone communistic."

* * *

An eighteen-year-old Catholic girl participated in a beauty contest at Wheeling, West Virginia, defying a declaration by the bishop of the diocese that he would expel from the church any girl who participated. Two other Catholic girls withdrew after his stand became known. The bishop said that modern beauty contests were "totally pagan and absolutely immoral."

* * *

A performance of Dorothy Sayers' play, "The Zeal of Thy House," was to have been given in Portsmouth Cathedral by an amateur company. It was cancelled because it would have been illegal under the provisions of the Theatres Act, 1843, which bans the performance of plays in any building not licensed as a theatre.

* * *

Archdeacon Sugget, of Capetown, South Africa, was attacked and thrust into a sack by two hikers to whom he gave a lift in his car on a main road. The car had been driven 200 miles when a gas station attendant noticed a movement under the blankets, and told the police. They chased the car for some miles, released the archdeacon and arrested the kidnappers.

(Turn to page 18)

CHURCH MANAGEMENT

Edited by William H. Leach



VOLUME XXVI

NUMBER 11

SEPTEMBER, 1950

Magnificent Illusions

MANY of us have enjoyed the latest book by W. R. Inge, *The Diary of a Dean*.^{*} It consists largely of excerpts from his actual, day by day, diary while he was the Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral, London. The editor, however, has included the text of his two best known lectures. First is the Romanes lecture on Progress delivered in 1920; secondly the one on The Victorian Age given in 1922. The first lecture is the one in which he attempts to prove that there is nothing inherent in the universe which decrees that men should go forward. It is the lecture which gained him the title of "The Gloomy Dean."

The second lecture, The Victorian Age, considers the period in history in which, according to the author, humanity rose to its greatest height. It is a mountain peak in human history. The dean attempts to explain the reason for this. First, it is the greatest age because it produced the greatest men. But, what made these men great? Here his explanation is that they were moved by the illusion of progress. Gladstone, Tennyson and others of that day believed that "humanity's course is onward."

Human progress may be an illusion but it is a magnificent one. When it can shape men and make great ages, an illusion comes mighty close to reality. One may prove that there is no progress but that is a poor substitute for an ideal which carries us forward. Progress may be an illusion but it is one of the magnificent ones.

On the shelf above my shoulder is the new edition of the book by Corliss Lamont, *The Illusion of Immortality*.[†] It is a well written volume written to prove that personal immortality is a myth and an illusion. The premise may be right, but this I doubt. But assuming

it is does it not belong to the group of magnificent illusions which have given inspiration, hope and strength to millions of pilgrims along the rocky road of life.

In the last analysis, with the changing concept of the state, democracy may be an illusion. Even in America it has become such a complicated thing that it bears little resemblance to the simple democracy of our founding fathers. Still I am not willing to join the group which insist that it is well to forget democracy and build the all-powerful state which controls the individual consciences of its people.

Call these, and others, illusions if you will. But, better a world moved by magnificent illusions than one in which human hope is being destroyed by stony realities of materialism where the human soul counts for less and less.

Isn't This Where We Came In?

(A Message on Conscription of Youth)

THE new conscription law caused us to look back into earlier issues of *Church Management*. What we find we think so good that we will let it speak again. In the time of national emergency it may be necessary to have conscription — but it should be universal conscription. It should be conscription of money, machines and men.

Let the November, 1945 issue of *Church Management* give the argument.

It is silly to call the measure universal conscription. It places the burden on but one segment of our society, the young men. It makes the same mistake that we made in the two world wars. Under the guise of universal conscription, young men of draft age fought and bled. Industry grew rich and organized labor with its bloated treasuries has become arrogant. Physically deficient youth flourished on the fat of the land while normal young men fought and died. Non-combatants now sit in secure economic positions while veterans,

^{*}The Macmillan Company

[†]Philosophy Library



HOLLYWOOD (CALIF.) CHURCHES ADVERTISE

The sign at the left is moved to a new location each month of the year. The Ministerial Association paid \$180.00 for the painting; a publicity firm donates the sites and moves the sign. It is forty feet long. It was conceived and erected under the presidencies of Stanley Cornils and Walter Staves.

scarcely out of their teens, walk the streets looking for work.

Let the President give the nation assurance that he will organize science, industry and international diplomacy as well as youth for defense and we will waive our objections. We hope that another war does not come. We doubt if it will in our generation. But it will help a lot if we can have some assurance that the groundwork is being laid so that, in any future wars, the burden will be more evenly divided.

Until we have some such assurance, we are against proposed conscription of our young men. Universal conscription, Mr. President, means the conscription of money, machines and men. If there is really danger, we are for that.

Getting Into War

LET nothing said in the above editorial be construed to mean any disloyalty to the United States of America. We quite agree that with the challenge thrown down by North Korea there was nothing to do but accept the issue. Once engaged in the conflict we cannot turn back.

But there have been times in the past few years when it has seemed that our government had done a lot of nudging to make such a challenge a reality. There was too much eagerness to rush to conflict. We were so anxious to support the United Nations that we got started a few hours before requested by that body. But, as the politician says: "As long as we are fighting the United Nations war what difference does a few hours make."

My father once told me a story which may be of point here. In a rural community in which good Christians lived there was one man who was inherently dilatory and lazy. During the haying season he cut his hay on Wednesday; went fishing on Thursday and Friday; slept

late on Saturday and then found that the skies were cloudy. Fearing wet hay he summoned his wife and children and they worked during the day and evening getting it raked and stacked. But it was still on the ground.

Come Sunday there was nothing to do but to stay home from church and get in the hay. Neighbors on the way to church saw the family at work and brought the word to the preacher. Early in the week the minister went out to rebuke the good man for breaking the Sabbath.

"Not at all," insisted the farmer. "Doesn't the good book say that if your ox or your ass fall into a pit on the Sabbath day that it is lawful to pull him out."

"So it does; so it does," said the preacher. But he continued.

"Reading the good book carefully I find no instructions for action when the owner pushes the ass into the pit. I think that is what happened here."

Korea is a long story. Not much of it is a credit to the United States. We consented to its occupation by Japanese troops more than a generation ago. There was simply no sense in the division of the country authorized by the Yalta agreement. Failure to properly train and arm the South Korean forces was a mistake.

Yes, we have got to pull the ass out of the pit but many of us would feel better if there were not so much evidence that we helped to push him in.

"Each one of you is a part of God's unrepented handiwork. No one with just your combination of capabilities has ever lived before or will ever live after you."

—Ruth Schroeder in "Youth Programs for Special Occasions" (Abingdon-Cokesbury)

But You Can Swap Jobs in Midstream

Pastor Finds That Teaching Position Offers Opportunities

by David A. MacLennan

ASK the average citizen to quote a saying of Abraham Lincoln apart from the Gettysburg Address and the chances are good that he will cite an aphorism from the President's Reply to the National Union League on June 9, 1864. Unless he has looked it up, as I did, the chances are also good that he has forgotten or has never known the context. Mr. Lincoln had decided to stand for re-election. "I have not permitted myself, gentlemen, to conclude that I am the best man in the country, but I am reminded in this connection of a story of an old Dutch farmer, who remarked to a companion once that it was not best to swap horses when crossing a stream." How that good saying has come to the aid of every party seeking re-election in the years since it was first successfully used! Granted, the homely observation contains a measure of truth. Granted also, it can be and has been overworked. A friend or kinsman announces his intention to try a wholly new kind of employment. Seeking nobly to be objective while concealing not too successfully your astonishment and dismay, you ask helpful leading questions. "This is most commendable, old boy. I always admire a person who refuses to stay in a rut. But after all you did choose this work, you are trained for it, and you've had reasonable success. This new field is attractive, useful, interesting. But what about the age factor? Of course you're not old, but after all, ten, fifteen, twenty years in one job can't be lightly dismissed. Have you thought of all the possibilities? Aptitude tests? Security? Maybe there is something in the old saying about not swapping horses while crossing a stream." There is. Even youngsters born and bred in a machine age, unaware that the word *ford* can be used as a verb, sense the unwisdom of shifting mounts while negotiating a river on horseback. Skilled horsemen may be dunked, and adepts and amateurs alike may emerge from the experience "all wet." Clients, customers, patients rarely fall over each other beating a path to the door of the man who hangs out a new shingle announcing a different brand of goods or services from that familiarly associated

with his name. "He can't be so good if he jumps from one thing to another" is the verdict of most human beings who rightly prize stability and wrongly exalt "as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be" into a cosmic theme song.

Of course there are notable exceptions in our own time. Grandma Moses at seventy-six taking up the paintbox and achieving sprightly "modern primitives," a popular preacher becoming an undeniably popular novelist a considerable time after he had passed beyond the shadow line of youth—these are but two of the impressive number of famous contemporaries who shifted professional gears without even suggesting they might have stripped them. A few years back the headmaster of a Massachusetts boys' preparatory school jumped from retirement into a medical course, studied in Paris and Vienna, and tasted the deepest satisfactions of his life in the brief space allotted to him to practice his new professional skills. But these notable exceptions, we tend to think, prove the rule. Certainly social arrangements as we know them would be dislocated unpleasantly if not disastrously were many of us to abandon the type of employment for which we were trained and in which we have served for a considerable period. Displaced persons would then present an insoluble problem.

Nevertheless from my inconspicuous seat in a back row I rise to say, the wisdom of the race epitomized in the slogan notwithstanding, you can swap jobs in midstream! I've done it—to be precise, I'm doing it—and I'm glad of

it. Does this merely reveal that I need no longer pray with the Scot, "Lord, gie us a guid conceit o' oorsel's"? Probably; my own ego is not suffering noticeably from undernourishment. And it is true that my experience in what I like to describe euphemistically as my new field of labor has been brief: only six months have swept by since my name was added to the payroll of my present benevolent employers. Doubtless I should wait ten years before making my report on the state of this new union of which I am a member. But by that time I may have succumbed to the occupational disease of absent-mindedness generally associated with my new profession.

Let the blithe spirit of Ripley wince or not, I am now a professor. Skeptics may examine an impressive document which proves it. I was a parish minister, serving in succession four of the best congregations this side of Jordan. That statement, "I was a parish minister," irritates my finer sensibilities. It sounds a little like "I was Hitler's prisoner," or "I escaped from the Kremlin," or even, "I am a fugitive from a chain gang." It is not so intended. Any resemblance of the Christian ministry to such reprehensible conditions as those book titles suggest is entirely fictitious, and imagined only by a work-weary pastor on a particularly indigo Monday morning. In a deep sense for which I am grateful, I hope to remain a minister until the final gong sounds. Once a minister always a minister is a sounder, safer generalization to make than to say once a Communist always a Communist, and much more complimentary. Indeed I would not now be a "theological prof" in what my colleagues and I consider the practical department of a great seminary, did I not consider the parish ministry a socially useful and spiritually indispensable vocation in modern society. I neither expect nor desire to cease being a preacher. My intimates caustically assure me there is little likelihood that I will, and quote Charles Lamb's retort to Coleridge. The latter asked Lamb one day if he had ever heard him preach. "Sam," said Charles, "I have never heard you do anything else." But I am not now a

Some months ago Yale University appointed David Alexander MacLennan to the chair of Preaching and Pastoral Care in the Divinity School. Born in Boston of Scottish-Canadian parents, he was ordained a Presbyterian minister and after brief pastorates in Boston and Baltimore entered the United Church of Canada in 1930 as pastor of a downtown parish in Montreal. From 1936 to June, 1949, he was senior minister of the large and flourishing Toronto congregation known as Timothy Eaton Memorial Church. His first book, "No Coward Soul," published by Oxford University Press, was a Pulpit Book Club selection last July.

preacher in the ordinary sense (do I hear a former parishioner say gently, "you never were"?). No longer do I serve in what is sometimes described with unconscious humor as a settled pastorate. (Settled so often connotes arrested development and complacent stagnation.) Nevermore, and it is said in no raven's dismal croak; nevermore, or at least as far as I can see, will I be the skipper of a ship of the spirit, responsible for navigation, cargo, duties of the crew and disposition of passengers. Henceforth, I am expected to share in the instruction of future pilots, imparting to them the rudiments of what may be called celestial navigation.

It Feels Different

"What does it feel like to be out of the pastorate and into teaching?" Solicitous friends press this question, and many of them actually wait for an answer. Candor requires me to say, in the first place (that manner of speaking was acquired in twenty years of sermon making) it feels different. If something new has been added, something old and flattering has been removed. Nostalgic twinges bite my emotions when I reflect upon some of the privileges that once were mine as a shepherd of a flock. If you like people one by one as well as in the aggregate, you will understand. A cynic with some psychological insight may interpret this as a frustration of exhibitionistic tendencies. Doubtless that allegedly base motive operates in all who stand and deliver from a pulpit, a platform, or before a radio microphone. But it is only one of the motives, and a lesser one at that. Certainly any minister, priest or rabbi worthy of his calling finds his ministry exhilarating for deeper and better reasons. A sense of significance issues from the knowledge that in "the common ventures of life" the parson is still the person most often welcomed as a spiritual ally. In the crises human beings experience, he counts, often tremendously, as a counselor and friend and as a transmitter of a healing word and of a healing presence.

Unrepentant Protestant that I am, I like the attitude implicit in the words inscribed on a placard urging French youth to enter the priesthood. The appeal could be read in the ancient Roman Catholic Church of St. Pierre in the old town of Saumur: "There are four great days in anyone's life: birth, confirmation, marriage, death. Would you not like to be one who would be needed on all four of those days?" When for two dozen years you felt

WAR BRIEFS

Did the United States Jump the Gun?

There has been much talk about the United States authorizing military resistance to the advance of the North Koreans before being requested by the Security Council of the United Nations.

From a publication of the State Department we glean the following.

June 25, 1950. The Security Council recognized that forces of North Korea had attacked the southern republic. It passed resolutions calling for (1) immediate cessation of hostilities and (2) called on authorities of North Korea to withdraw their forces north of the 38th parallel. It requested the United Nations Commission on Korea to (1) communicate recommendations on the situation and (2) observe the withdrawal of the North Korean forces. It called upon members of the United Nations to render every assistance to the United Nations and to refrain from giving assistance to North Korea.

June 26. President Truman stated, "the United States will vigorously support the effort of the council to terminate this serious break of the peace."

June 27. President Truman stated, "I have ordered the United States air and sea forces to give the Korean government troops cover and support."

He added: "I have instructed Ambassador Austin, as the representative of the United States to the Security Council, to report these steps to the council."

June 27 (later). Ambassador Austin reported the above to the council. He urged that resolutions be passed, one of which reads

"Recommended that members of the United Nations furnish such assistance to the Republic of Korea as may be necessary to repel the armed attack and to restore international peace and security in the area.

This was included in the resolutions passed by the council.

(It is clearly evident that the announcement of the use of force was made by President Truman before the Security Council had requested it and, further, that following the announcement the United States government pressed for the resolution to justify its announcement.)

needed by individuals and families on many critical days, its absence rocks you a bit inside. Happily, a similar type of service is available for faculty advisers. Professional status is altered, but opportunities come whereby a teacher can be a counselor on more vital matters than even curriculum and credits. Immensely valuable as this is, it is not the same, and the duration of such relationships is rarely more than three years. Moreover, the group is necessarily restricted to young men of a definite age and interest category. Most seminary teachers preach frequently, hence I am not deprived of the discipline and thrills which may accompany this exacting exercise. But we are itinerants, peripatetic prophets preaching to a procession. Here literally we have no continuing city. Advantages inhere in the fact, especially for our auditors. They need not "sit under" us more than once. And, if we are so minded—heaven forbid!—we can run up considerable mileage on one sermon. But as one of my irrepresible companions at the refectory occasionally remarks, one man's meat is apt to be another man's hash. Homiletic hash even when garnished with the parsley of local references and the spice of an occasional new illustration is still hash, and its vitamin content is low.

A major adjustment for the man who swaps jobs while crossing the river of years revolves around the change in status. Was it Keith Preston who mused on the disadvantages of being captain of his soul, recalling the fun he had when he was just the cabin boy? This gives comfort, but only after accepting the fact that another is now on the bridge and entitled to all the privileges, perquisites and criticism that entails. Certainly the transition from being the Reverend Boss to working as one of a score of academic foremen is good for the soul. A man can be ruined if his position allows all and sundry to massage his ego at least one day in seven. The faculty member is free from such occupational hazards. Students will keep him from over-indulging in self-pity; colleagues by their industry and esprit de corps will keep him humble. Experienced, "proper" professors in all colleges and graduate schools know better than I that only a dean or president can be head man; and neither of these hard-working administrative officers is likely to suffer from inhaling too many compliments.

(To be concluded next month)



Roy Miles, 12, of North Merrick, Long Island, is home bound with rheumatic fever. He keeps up with the class and enjoys a recess visit with classmates through Executone School to Home Service.

Church and Church School by Remote Control

by H. L. Williams

TODAY I ran across a newspaper clipping for which I have been waiting a long time. For months I have been reading of public schools carrying instruction to invalid children by means of the telephone. I wondered why some church did not grab hold of the idea for its program. The delay was long. But now it is here.

It was a brief note. It was taken from the Haverstraw (New York) *Messenger*. Here it is:

ATTENDS CHURCH BY WIRE

An elderly Arkansas lady, Mrs. Rosa Connerly, is the oldest living charter member of her church. When the infirmities of age confined her to a wheel chair at home, she found that church services were the things she missed most from her formerly active life. Her son took her problem to the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company with the result that the services are now brought into her home by a telephone hook-up similar to that which brings the classroom to shut-in children.

"The transmission is excellent," says Mrs. Connerly, who adds that, "when the collection plate is passed, you can even hear the coins clinking."

So there we have, at last, an instance when the church is using this effective remote control system. Just what is it, and how did it originate?

As I get the story, it began about

twelve years ago in the state of Iowa. The state director of special education asked the local manager of Executone, a manufacturer of inter-communication systems, if he could not figure out some way to help a bedridden student. The representative took the problem to the telephone company. Together they worked out the plan. By using the "intercom" attached to the telephone wire they heard the entire class presentation. The instructors asked him questions. By flipping a switch he gave his answers.

The success was so immediate that others were eager to get the same service. It is now used in hundreds of instances by public schools and parochial schools. But, as I said above, it has been difficult to find an instance in the Protestant churches.

Let me give you some school illustrations.

Richard Lee Clark, a fourteen-year-old Des Moines boy fell out of a tree. Compound fractures and other complications have kept him home-bound. But he attends school each day by this new method.

Richard writes:

"It is just like going to school because the teacher allows the boys and

girls to talk to me after and before classes. I really enjoy it. The tone is perfect and it seems that I am right in the schoolroom all of the time."

Roy Miles, twelve, of North Merrick, Long Island, New York, is confined to his home with rheumatic fever. He participates in the classroom exercises in Union Free School No. 23, and kids with the girls in the class during the recess period.

In Blue Earth, Minnesota, a boy with cerebral palsy was able to attend classes only as long as they were all on one floor. The Minnesota Society for Crippled Children and Adults had one of these systems installed. Now he attends high school by wire and is an honor student.

As the plan has developed it has become an integral part of the services offered by the telephone company. If a home is supplied with electric current an installation is possible. The charge for the service is not great. It is added to the monthly telephone bill.

Now back to Mrs. Connerly and her church. I think that she is a pioneer. Some of us old timers can remember the thrill of organizing the home department of the Sunday school. Visitors going out from the local church carried literature and personal greetings to the "halt, the lame and the blind." Now science has come to our aid.

I suspect that, in reality, there are other churches using this wire plan for carrying services to their members. *Church Management* just hasn't heard about them. If you have information of any such church installation we would like to have you write us about them.

Annual Bride and Groom Service

It Has Become an Institution in the Church of the Author

*by Ivan H. Hagedorn**

THE American home is one of our major social problems. All students of modern life agree that it must be solved, if American institutions worth saving are to be preserved. One out of every five marriages ends in divorce. Just how many more homes suffer because of separations, and how many others are shadowed by unhappy marriages is unknown. Just think how many children's lives are affected: if there would be two children to every marriage, the total of lives scarred would run into the millions.

Many ministers have found premarital counseling an effective technique in combatting the problem. Some ministers arrange not only one meeting with a young couple to be married, but a succession of such audiences. Indeed, very comprehensive charts, covering almost every detail of the marital relationship, have been drawn up and filled in. I have no doubt that it is all very helpful.

I am of the mind, however, that it is just as important to follow a marriage once consummated, as it is to impart helpful counsel to a young couple seeking the pastor, in order to be wed. Not long ago, a very happy couple, who have been married for about a score of years, told me how the minister who married them dropped into their home each week. His visit was of a very friendly nature, and appeared to be without objective. The couple undertook to ask the minister just why he called so often. He answered, "I just want to see how you young people are getting along together." Of course, when he was satisfied that things were moving along well, he dropped out of the picture.

More than twenty-five years ago, I hit upon the idea of holding an Annual Bride and Groom Service. It is held during the month of October. Every effort is made to contact all the couples who have been married under the auspices of the church. They come from near and far. Every effort is made to carry the memory back to the day when they stood at the altar and were joined together in the bonds of matrimony. One time, all of the couples were asked to meet in another room.

There were more than fifty of them. When the organist struck up the Bridal March, the couples walked down the aisle to the section which had been reserved for them. Every part of the service was planned to deepen the sense of responsibility toward each other, and to strengthen the vows made at the time of the marriage. I have never failed to get a very decided favorable reaction to the service. Some little award is given to the couples who have been married the longest, the most recently, coming the greatest distance, and having the most children, and the couple having the most recent child.

Each year, I write a special article on some phase of home life. They have carried such titles as "Family Fun," "Family Friction," "Side by Side," "Look Before You Leap," "Teen-Age Trouble," "With This Ring," and "The Way of a Man With a Maid." They are given a wide circulation. Every couple attending the service receives one, and often this is handed around to their friends. The balance of the copies may be sent to the couples who have been prevented from attendance by sickness, or some other good cause.

The most recent brochure written is the one bearing the title, "Family Friction." It is the sermon that is presented herewith.

Family Friction

"There are good marriages, but there are no delightful ones," La Rochefoucauld said many years ago. The old fairy stories describing the romance of Prince Charming and his lady love ended upon the note, "And they lived happily ever after." But judging from the mounting divorce rates, the modern version would be, "And they lived scrappily ever after."

Statistics would indicate that in the not too far distant future couples will be unmarrying at a faster rate than they marry. Indeed, according to a very prominent judge, if the present trend continues, it won't be long before a bride will take a divorce petition with her on her honeymoon, in order that she can step right into the court if she doesn't enjoy her wedding trip. It is a truth that marriage today, along with the family is more dilapidated and shopworn than it has been for centuries, if not for all of history.

Many causes might be set forth accounting for this deterioration. The revolution in our sexual morality, and the economic liberation of women are

generally given the most emphasis. Yet, the failure to properly handle the little things in married life is not to be overlooked. It has been said that our moral and spiritual dimensions are determined by the size of the difficulty which throws us. In marriage, how often it is some little thing that disturbs the relationship of a husband and wife. Harry Emerson Fosdick once said: "It is not marriage that fails; it is people that fail. All that marriage does is to show people up."

Family friction is not to be looked upon lightly. The idea as set forth by some that a quarrel holds some value is to my mind crazy. It may be true that a man and a woman can hardly live together throughout the years without a quarrel. But to my mind, something precious is lost in every quarrel. Whatever fun there may be in "making up," we can be sure that a quarrel kills something inside the breasts of those who engage in the quarrel. As Levater long since has said, "He subjects himself to be seen as through a microscope who is caught in a fit of passion."

The greatest loss, however, is that sustained by the children when the home in which they grow up is one of friction. Nothing can ever take the place, in the life of a child, of a stable, happy, secure home. Anyone growing up in such wholesome atmosphere builds up that strong reserve which always proves so valuable in later years. A home should afford plenty of chance for unrestrained talk, much laughter, consideration for others, and general give and take for such a home provides a great training for adult life. Let us, therefore, consider how family friction can be avoided, or at least kept to the minimum.

I.

To avoid friction in the family, the rule of courtesy and thoughtfulness should never be forgotten. Rudeness is the cancer that devours life. As the little foxes spoil the vines, so it is the little acts of meanness and selfishness that spoil marriage. It is rather a pathetic fact that we are more prone to show consideration for the stranger than we do for our own loved ones.

Basic in human nature is the desire to be appreciated. There is no more important thing to remember, if happiness is to be experienced in the home, than to show affection and consideration. Much harmony is promoted through some small surprise, a little joke, a slight remembrance, so indicative of thoughtfulness.

Wise is the wife, the husband, who takes mental note of the little things which please their mates. There are a certain number of habits which we have formed long before we stood at the altar. Often, these are inconsequential, and yet if they are disturbed

*Minister, Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

the ground is made ready for family warfare. For example, the insistence on the part of the wife that the husband stop reading the morning newspaper at breakfast has become the hinge upon which a brawl has turned. Or perchance, the discarding of a dilapidated old hat, a disreputable looking pair of shoes, or a rocking-chair that has become an eyesore, without first speaking to her husband has resulted in dire trouble.

It is important always to put the welfare of your companion first. Yet, often it is evident that the husband or the wife is out to secure comfort, security, and affection for himself or herself. This spirit is revealed when plans are made by or without consulting the other. It sometimes happens that if the wife is on a diet, she seems to think the entire family should starve along with her. As E. W. Howe once expressed it: "A woman wants men to have a good time in a woman's way."

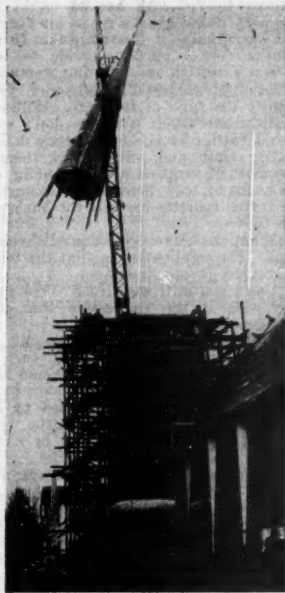
A man, after a hard day lived in the world of men, likes to think in the evening time of returning to a home where he can unbuckle his armor and talk freely with a woman who understands. If he has to listen to a recital of how trying the children were, how big the wash was, or how much trouble it was to get dinner, you can be sure that he is deeply disappointed. On the other hand, he should not be unmindful of the cares and trials sustained by his life-partner, and should be ready with some word of commendation and affection. Myrtle Reed says: "A man likes to feel he is loved—A woman likes to be told." Just taking for granted the part either one plays in maintaining a home is fatal.

Deep in every one of us is the spiritual craving for some refuge, some inner citadel for privacy. No one likes to be asked too many questions—a man especially. Everlastingly prying into what he is doing, or trying to find out what he is thinking, leads him to the conclusion that if he wants a moment of quiet home is not the place to find it. A wise man once said: "The reason why a man dislikes to answer a woman's questions is because she always wants him to explain what he means when he usually doesn't mean anything."

It is a mistake, too, to lay aside those little niceties which were so important in the days of courtship. Then, among other things, we always tried to look our best. For a wife to come to dinner in an old dressing-gown, with unkempt hair, or for a man to sit down to the table with his face unshaven and his hair unbrushed may seem small but it is nevertheless one of the small things that is very important. Whether company is expected or not, it is always good to be presentable. Sloppiness at any time is unbecoming and dangerous!

II.

To avoid friction in the home, one needs to develop a good forgettery. One can easily poison the life of his mate by keeping a rosary of grievances. A good memory is hardly more important than a good forgettery, yet many people will seemingly develop wonderful memories just to recall the unpleasant things. How many sad scenes in the home are produced when either the husband or wife will dig into the past to produce a harsh, painful or distressing thought or experience, which profitably might have been forgotten.



NINETY-FOOT BOOM LIFTS CHURCH SPIRE

A 51-foot copper spire, topped by gold leaf and cross, is shown as it is lifted in place at the Augustana Lutheran Church in Portland, Oregon. It took two hours to lift into place the spire which weighs two tons. The cross at the top is eight feet tall and the gold ball is eighteen inches in diameter. Philip Ellman is the pastor of the church. Sights such as these are increasing across the country because of the large number of churches being erected.

George Eliot once said: "Harsh speech, between those who have loved, is hideous in the memory, like the sight of greatness and beauty sunk into vice and rags." Be ready always to express good will even though your mate may be minded to carry on the old grudge for a time; it is the nobler part.

A husband or wife who holds in the heart slights and hurts is sure to develop an emotional antagonism toward his mate. Such an emotion is bound to distort one's vision, and consequently prompt us to thoughts and actions which are positively hurtful. In marriage we must again and again forgive and forget. Surrender then all grudges, jealousies and feelings of contempt. Only by so doing can good will replace enmity.

I like to think of Harriet Beecher Stowe. At twenty-five, she married a young widower who was nearly insane with grief. He was a scholar, "rich in Greek, Hebrew, Latin and Arabic, and nothing else," she once wrote to a friend. In addition, he was a quick-tempered, irritable pessimist. Mrs. Stowe took as her motto an inscription she once read on a sun-dial, when but a little girl: "I count the fair hours only." With a self-centered husband, we can believe that it frequently happened that her own sensitive nature was cut to the quick. But she developed the ability to look on the humorous side of things. One time, when her hus-

band ranted because she had used some prized hatching-eggs for her baking, she dissipated his grouch by perching on the chicken-roost with her children and all cackled hilariously. Her soured mate could not but sweeten up over the humor of that spectacle. Despite the full schedule of looking after her children, feeding her boarders, and humoring her impractical, absent-minded husband, Harriet Beecher Stowe wrote in her odd moments the history-making novel, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. She was unwilling to be dominated by her resentments, thereby keeping her fine mind free from their distortions. And after a half-century of married life, her husband, in retrospect, could express but one regret, that people insisted upon calling him "Mr. Harriet Beecher Stowe."

III.

To avoid friction in the home, anything that smacks of tyranny should be avoided. It is a well-known fact that nobody likes to be bossed. Such an attitude on the part of one is bound to fill the other with distaste and loathing and the desire to retaliate. Yet, as Elbert Hubbard reminds us: "Every quarrel begins in nothing and ends in a struggle for supremacy." Anyone who feels that he is bossed boils within, for his sense of self importance has been punctured and you can be sure he is in no mood for love-making. A canvasser appeared at the door, "Madam," he said "I am taking data for a new political directory. What party does your husband belong to?" "Take a good look, Mister," said the formidable looking creature, "I'm the party."

Nobody likes to be pushed around, especially at home. Everybody resents being counted a door-mat. Much friction in the home could be avoided if each would be willing to sub-serve his personality to the other. A wise husband will not inflict his pastimes on his wife if they bore her, nor will she on the other hand drag him to teas or to concerts when such events pain him. Agree to live and let live. To be one's self is one of the most precious rights of a human being. Anyway, you can never win love by demanding it.

Yet many a woman will start out her marriage with the aim of changing her husband, saying, "He's a bit rough around the edges but I am sure I can improve him." And while it may well be true that for every woman who makes a fool out of a man, there is another woman who makes a man out of a fool, yet the attempt to change one into her own pattern is very likely to be motivated by conceit. It is as though she would say, "If you would be perfect, be like me." The emotionally mature individual will always cultivate freedom for his mate. In its possession alone lies the possibility of happiness and fullness of life. When we accord that freedom to one another, we relieve what is invariably a tension-making situation. The poet, Pindar has said: "The word that is overbearing is a spur unto strife."

This lamentable trait of bossiness is evident in little things. When the husband sets out to tell a story, the wife will interrupt him two or three times, just to be sure that he gets the story right. Or the husband will niggardly dole out to his partner the pitiable allowance, telling her exactly how much she is to spend for this or that. He will

insist upon knowing where every penny goes and expect her to report each time a purchase is made.

The tendency to criticize stems from the same source. Couples who are happily married will avoid criticism of each other, especially in the presence of others. In place of criticism, substitute charm; in place of tyranny, substitute tolerance. Steer clear of every situation or action which makes your partner uneasy, and endeavor to avoid topics which are annoying to the other, particularly if they have engendered quarrels previously.

Dorothea Payne was twenty years younger than James Madison, whom she married. She knew her husband had had a melancholy breakdown just after college, and that he had been rejected by a girl half his age, when he was thirty-two. She and "Jeemy" were as unlike as day and night.

Dolly Madison was plump and buoyant. James Madison was slender and worrisome. Solemn James always wore black clothes. Dolly, his wife, was ever ready for fun. Did easy, laughing Dolly try to remold "Jeemy," make him wear bright clothes and play silly games? Not wise Dolly. "My husband" — "may he ever be right," she said many times, "but my husband, right or wrong." Not only did Dolly Madison make a success of her marriage — she made a grand success of James Madison. As we know he became president of our country.

IV.

One must refrain from that marital dynamite, nagging if friction in the family is to be avoided. A wise pastor, who had just counseled with a young couple who had come to him as a last resort, ended his advice by pointing to the drapes in the living-room. "If each one of you," he said, "would choose your words as carefully as you chose those drapes for the harmony of the home, I'm sure no unkind, hateful arguments would destroy its loveliness again." In the heat of argument all sight of the truth is lost and words become murderers.

- "A careless word
- May kindle strife;
- A cruel word
- May wreck a life;
- A bitter word
- May hate instill;
- A brutal word
- May smite and kill;
- A gracious word
- May smooth the way;
- A joyous word
- May light the way;
- A timely word
- May lessen stress
- A loving word
- May heal and bless."

Recorder

The stubborn persistence in small mannerisms, habits of speech, voice and behavior so distasteful and irritating to your life-partner, can in time make him wild. But there is nothing like a barrage of words thoughtlessly and carelessly flung out to force a person, against whom they have been directed, to run to cover. Just this one thing has been the cause for thousands of husbands to leave home. Nothing is more natural in the face of such an attack than for a person to explode and to blurt out his legitimate complaints. Wise old Ben Franklin has said "He

that blows the coals in quarrels he has nothing to do with has no right to complain if the sparks fly in his face." But sometimes it doesn't take three months for a blushing bride to become a shrewish and nagging woman.

Nagging supposedly is more frequently the fault of the wife. William Feather once said: "Women don't win verbal battles by accident — they deliberately train and prepare for them." However, it is often a shortcoming of the husband, too. Some of the commonest verbal stiletos used by the husband are these—

"What the kids need is a good thrashing." The implication is that the wife is accused of spoiling them.

"Can't you ever say 'No'?" This carries with it the suggestion that the wife has been extravagant.

"Maybe if you didn't run around so much, the house wouldn't be in such a mess." This implies that the home has been neglected.

"And what is that supposed to do for you?" How this cuts when the wife proudly displays her new hat or hair-do.

The wife's chief stock in trade are these—

"Aren't you ever going to get a raise?" Nothing is more likely to make a husband wither within.

"When do you think your mother plans to leave, if ever?" In-law trouble is a common source of difficulty.

"You never think of buying me a fur coat." The insinuation is that the husband is stingy.

"Stay out of the living-room with your dirty shoes." Such a remark turns the warm word of "home" into the cold word "house."

"You make more of a fuss over other women than you do over me." In these words, a wife questions the loyalty of her husband.

Whether a nagger knows it or not, the real objective is to break down the ego of a husband or wife, thereby making him or her feel small. Nothing will take the fight out of a man more readily than nagging. It renders him impotent, as he faces his task. When a man feels that he is being pushed around, he loses all incentive. It will not be long before the boss is made aware that there is trouble at home. It can readily be seen that in undermining a man's self-confidence a woman cooks her own goose. It is strange that a woman who will stand by a man after he has committed a crime, or go to work so that he might go to school, will yet not give a hoot at some of the things that she says. She will kill her husband's self-confidence with pin pricks. And without self-confidence a man cannot succeed in life.

The one place where a man should find balm for wounds received in his battle for a living is in his home. Benjamin Disraeli's wife, Mary Anne, was neither young, nor beautiful, nor brilliant. But the home that she made for her husband was a place where he could ease into his mental slippers and literally bask in the warmth of her adoration. Her conversation bubbled with laugh-provoking blunders. And the hours that he spent with his aging wife were the happiest of his life. She looked up to him and made him realize that she admired him. And most important, whatever he undertook, Mary Anne simply did not believe he could

fail. She felt it to be her task to build him up, not to tear him down.

Instead of criticizing a man for taking a second cup of coffee, the way he parts his hair, or ties his shoelaces; instead of demeaning the job he holds, or calling attention to his weight, or criticizing his friends, a woman will be wise to cultivate a sense of humor. The small troubles about which so much fuss is made may readily become sources of endless amusement, if you will but give them the opportunity. And nothing is more charming than a household where every member of the family is ready to laugh at himself.

It is readily understood that all of us are more or less subject to moods. I believe it is Donald A. Laird, in his book, *The Technique of Personal Analysis*, who tells of a couple who fell upon this happy idea — whenever the wife felt irritable, she greeted her husband with her apron turned inside out, and he knew he had to act accordingly. In the same way, if the husband had a tiring day or felt ill, he came into his home with his hat tilted warningly on one side. But possibly the Bible offers the best suggestions—"A soft answer turned away wrath." "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver." "Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth. Keep the door of my lips."

V.

Sharing is a beautiful word. It must be a big word in the home, if friction is to be avoided. When a couple stand before the altar and are wed, each one professes his willingness to assume the responsibilities involved. I've always thought that the girl who enters into marriage with an antagonism toward the work embraced in keeping a home and mothering a family is a downright fraud. And in the same breath, I would say that the man who asks a girl to marry him, and is unable to provide a living for her is a sham.

Home-making is a joint responsibility. Even in wealthy households, staffed with servants, the wife should still be prepared with sufficient knowledge of home problems to take charge. Some while ago, a thimble was held up before a wife who had been married for eight months. She was asked what it was for. Her guess was that it was used for making holes in doughnuts. Then there was the wife who went all out for politics. She returned one evening to her neglected home, and sinking into an armchair, said: "Everything is grand. We're going to sweep the state." Her husband looked wearily around, and said: "Why not start with the living-room?"

Couples should share in worship. Religion is basic. Horace Bushnell said: "A house without a roof would scarcely be a more indifferent house than a family without religion." Yet, when one is religious and the other is not, one of one faith and the other of another, friction is very likely to develop. I would that more of our fathers would take the stand taken by that grand old soldier, Joshua. He said, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." One of the grandest institutions of all time was the family pew, where parents sat with their children in the House of God. But when parents are of different faiths, a problem for their

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He Publicizes Worthy Causes

This Publicity Man Serves God Through the Medium of Newspapers, Magazines and Radio

by William H. Leach



EDWARD L. WERTHEIM

ON the twelfth floor of a tall office building in New York is a man whose dark hair, vigor and youthfulness belie his advancing years; a man who has done a great deal to further the Kingdom of God in this generation, but whose name is seldom heard, for he is always behind the scenes pushing some person or cause to the foreground. Yet many a campaign would have failed and many a great man gone unnoticed were it not for the work of the publicity person, Edward L. Wertheim, who has dedicated his life and his advertising agency to the furtherance of God's work.

In his office at 11 West 42nd Street, right across from the beautiful New York Public Library, many a minister or Christian layman has come a long distance to discuss his problems with Ed Wertheim and sought his help. And never has a worthy cause been turned down if Ed can possibly do something to assist. Many a radio preacher, now receiving mail by the sack, owes his popularity to the fact that this sympathetic adviser saw in him a person of sincerity and ability whose messages should be shared with the multitudes, and, by knowing the right people and seeing them at the right time, this Christian publicity man has often found a channel that gave the minister his chance to make good.

Thus you and I, and the other people who listen in, are benefited by inspiring radio talks, and the minister's usefulness and popularity are increased. The radio stations are pleased at the many letters of approval from their listeners, and Ed Wertheim is happy to think he was useful in getting "that fellow" started.

It isn't just persons that he pushes

along, but all sorts of good causes, and many a dignified stunt has he arranged to get publicity for a project in which he is interested. Just before the war, for instance, he released some 2,000 homing pigeons from the Washington monument at the Capital to get the attention of the public for a newly organized Emergency Peace Campaign. Messages from Eleanor Roosevelt, active in this movement, were inserted in aluminum containers fastened to the legs of the pigeons, giving names of speakers and dates of meetings in connection with the proposed campaign. Newspapers gave a lot of space and the National Broadcasting Company gave time to this unique pigeon stunt. On newsreels, the event was shown in nearly all the theaters over the country.

Then, too, there was the American Mission to Lepers with its pig bank movement shortly after their twenty-fifth anniversary at which it was reported that a million dollars had come in during that time. Wertheim planned a celebration to launch the securing of a second million dollars. Thus was reenacted the beginning of the movement when ten-year-old Wilbur Chapman of White Cloud, Kansas, raised and gave a pig to help raise money for children of lepers.

The people of White Cloud were happy to cooperate with suitable ceremonies including attendance of local Indians and placing a plaque, designed by Wertheim, on a boulder in one of the church yards. The local newspaper gave front page coverage to the event in which a typographical error told of the "unveiling of the plague" instead of "the plaque."

Wertheim frequently works along with Marts and Lundy, an outstanding money-raising organization that serves churches and schools, for he and Dr. Marts were college mates at Oberlin. When Marts and Lundy had the job of raising \$27,000,000.00 for the restoration fund of the Presbyterian Church, U. S. A., they called on Wertheim to assist in their publicity. Day after day, for months, he spent his entire mornings in the Presbyterian Building preparing booklets and folders and getting out news releases that had much to do with the advance of

that gigantic undertaking. Hospitals, schools, colleges, churches and individuals all over the country could well add this genial publicity man to their list of "thank-you" prayers.

Although a sincere Christian, a Sunday school teacher of boys, a superintendent of the Sunday school for many years, one of the founders of his church (the Community Church of Douglaston, New York), yet theological differences have never particularly disturbed him. People of all denominations and shades of theology turn to him and he works for them all—as long as their spirit is right and they are honest and sincere. He is just as interested in Jack Wyrzten's "Word of Life" as he is in the Episcopal Diocesan Youth Mission. In fact, when the Rev. Bryan Green, rector of Birmingham, England, recently accepted an invitation from the bishop of New York to conduct a mission at the ultra-smart St. Bartholomew's Church on Park Avenue, he accepted the invitation with the request that Edward L. Wertheim would handle the publicity, for he had met Wertheim on a previous visit to the United States and was impressed with his promotion ideas. So the bishop and all his colleagues invited Mr. Wertheim and his wife, Madeline George, who assists him in his work, to attend all the planning

Below: Ed Wertheim is shown as he plans his anti-profanity campaign



conferences many months before the Rev. Bryan Green arrived, to make sure that his meetings would be a success, as, of course, they were. (See *Church Management*, January, 1950, page 9.)

When the Methodist Hospital in Brooklyn felt the need of some publicity Dr. Chester C. Marshall, its superintendent, consulted Wertheim, who worked out a successful Better Baby Contest. The contest is now a frequent event with Wertheim seeing that the newspapers and magazines hear all about it. Maybe you saw it on your television set last spring.

As this article goes to press, Wertheim and his associates (Wertheim Advertising Associates, to give it the correct title) are busy publicizing the American visit of the great Japanese Christian, Dr. Toyohiko-Kagawa.

Promotes the Revised Standard Bible

One of the present outstanding projects of the Wertheim Advertising Associates is promotion of the Revised Standard Version of the New Testament, published in 1946, and the Revised Standard Version of the Bible, to be published about 1952. Since before the publication of the New Testament in 1946 they have been handling the advertising on this new version and Ed Wertheim and his associates feel deeply a sense of responsibility and privilege in handling this great work. All the attractive full-page and half-page advertisements which the reader has undoubtedly seen in many religious publications have been the result of great thought, considerable prayer and much work. Now the Wertheims are working hand in hand, not only with Thomas Nelson & Sons, the publishers, but with the International Council of Religious Education, under whose auspices the revision was brought forth. Extensive plans are being mapped out to see that the public is properly informed of the forthcoming complete Bible, due to be published in the fall of 1952.

Besides his religious publicity and advertising, Wertheim is something of a reformer—especially when it comes to smoking, swearing or drinking (arranged according to the strength of his interest). He is vice president of the National Anti-Cigarette Alliance, with headquarters at 107 Carroll Street, Washington, D. C. He not only plans and publicizes their quarterly meetings, but he encourages the publication of numerous magazine articles on tobacco evils which he reprints and distributes. He is the author of a little comic leaflet entitled "A Brand New Cigarette—Lucky Camfields," a take-off ridiculing cigarette advertising.

His anti-profanity posters (sets of

six humorous posters in color selling for \$1.50 per set) are placed in hundreds of Y. M. C. A.'s. Navy chaplains have sent for them to be placed on their ships to remind a would-be swearer, as one poster reads, that profanity is merely "the crutch of conversational cripples."

Ed Wertheim was not always in publicity work. For sixteen years he was educational director of the West Side Y. M. C. A., New York, where he helped organize some of the many schools and courses that are now strong and active units in the Y. M. C. A. educational program, such as the McBurney School for Boys, Motion Picture Machine Operating, Public Speaking and many other courses. His experience in advertising and promoting these schools until they became self-supporting organizations with some 5,000 to 7,000 students with a budget of \$250,000 a year and a credit balance one year of \$50,000 is a story in itself, too long to tell here.

One incident, however, should be mentioned. All the Y. M. C. A.'s together with the other service organizations during the first world war combined in a United War Fund for providing entertainment and comfort for the men overseas. When the war came to a close sooner than expected, the Y. M. C. A.'s found themselves embarrassed with millions of dollars unspent which was impossible to return to the givers. Many proposals for the use of the money were suggested, but most of them benefited the "Y" and not the men for whom the money was intended. Wertheim came up with a plan for an Ex-servicemen's Scholarship Fund and \$6,000,000.00 were appropriated. By this plan any serviceman might receive vocational education in any of the schools and colleges in the United States or by a Y. M. C. A. correspondence course, with his tuition paid out of this fund. In many respects this plan was the forerunner of the present G. I. Bill of Rights by which servicemen in the last war were to get education paid for by the government.

Helped the Boy Scouts

At the beginning of the Boy Scout Movement, while educational director of the "Y," Wertheim was asked by one of the founders to consider heading up the Boy Scout Movement. He didn't feel led to accept this but, realizing that the organization would succeed only with trained scoutmasters, he brought together the pioneer leaders and assisted in organizing the first course for training scoutmasters, with the late Dan Beard as the first instructor. But Wertheim himself stayed

in Y. M. C. A. work at that time and developed the school work there.

Mr. Wertheim later felt that the same advertising and publicity principles that made the "Y" educational work so successful should be shared by other institutions. He finally decided to go into full time publicity and advertising work. He believes sincerely that successful advertising and publicity is based on the teachings of Jesus who had the largest project ever to get over into the minds of people—the establishing of the Kingdom of God on earth. Mr. Wertheim stated, "If Jesus were here today, his terminology might well be, 'You are my publicity representatives,' instead of 'Ye are my witnesses.' He would make use of all the present-day channels for disseminating ideas as newspapers, magazines, radio, television and motion pictures."

One of the interesting projects that Wertheim likes to talk about was producing the "Picture Stories of the Bible" in comic form. He wanted to take advantage of the great interest children have in comics and channel this to an interest in the dramatic Bible characters. For about a year he worked on the script and assisted in the production of four books that composed the Old Testament and then almost another year on the New Testament. He carried out the idea for clean comics of the publisher, the late M. C. Gaines, who was one of the largest publishers of children's comic books.

Among the people that he has helped in some form of publicity, are many noted names including S. Parkes Cadman, Harry Emerson Fosdick, Norman Vincent Peale, Frederick K. Stamm, J. Stanley Durkee, Daniel A. Poling, Stanley High, Greenville Kleiser, Ralph W. Sockman, Frank C. Goodman, Jessie M. Bader, E. Stanley Jones and J. Richard Sneed.

Organizations that he had helped with publicity include Presbyterian Sesquicentennial Fund, Near East Relief, John Milton Society for the Blind, Salvation Army, Bucknell University, Warner Brothers' motion picture, "One Foot in Heaven," and many others.

Wertheim modestly disclaims credit for helping advance people and causes since he feels that he is only a channel through whom God works with ideas given him for advertising, publicity and promotion. An instance at point: he was eager to meet Dr. Frank C. Laubach, the great religious leader and author on "Prayer." A luncheon was arranged by a mutual friend. During this luncheon, Mr. John A. Ryder of The Layman's Movement for a Christian World passed by the table. Wert-

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heim called to him and introduced him to Dr. Laubach. Mr. Ryder sat down and discussed Dr. Laubach's work. At Wertheim's suggestion a dinner was arranged for Dr. Laubach, who explained his plan to get large numbers of people to pray for the delegates of the United Nations. As a result of this, arrangements were made by which Dr. Laubach flew to Paris to attend the Peace Conference and later he was sent to forty cities throughout the United States to speak and secure promises of prayer for the delegates to the United Nations. Here again Wertheim is happy that he was used by God as a channel for this great prayer undertaking.

These various educational, advertising and publicity ventures tell only a little about this man of relentless activity and drive, who begins his office day with his staff in united prayer for guidance and who always finds time to help any worthy individual in distress by trying to locate a job for him, or at least counseling and when appropriate, praying with him.

You would naturally expect to find such a man happy, and of course, he is. He keeps his staff laughing at his innumerable jokes, his animal mimicry, his clowning, his imitation of a timid secretary looking for a job, or just a bewildered drunk who has wandered into the office.

For Christmas his wife made him a corduroy Santa Claus suit trimmed with rabbit's fur. He served as Santa Claus at four different parties. He tells how one little Sunday school girl put her arms around him and told how she was going to leave him a candy cane when he came on Christmas Eve. He is still hoping somebody ate that candy cane so she wasn't disappointed.

Mr. Wertheim, too, feels that humor is a gift of God, even as ideas are, and should be cultivated. He thinks all these talents can work together for the furtherance of the kingdom if one's gifts, no matter what kind, are dedicated to God.

Ministerial Oddities

(From page 6)

Rev. Prebendary Henry Temple, rector of Chetwynd, Salop, when preparing for Holy Communion, took what he supposed was a bottle of wine to the vestry. Pouring some out and thinking it looked peculiar, he tasted it. His mouth and throat were badly burned. Five weeks later he died in a hospital. The bottle contained caustic soda.

Prayer Cells at Work

They Have a Purpose for Our Age

by Harold Wiley Freer*

IN the fall of 1948 we organized prayer cells in our church, calling them Fellowship Groups, using the term "Fellowship of the Concerned" from D. Elton Trueblood's "Alternative to Futility." Announcing publicly that those interested in an experiment in prayer were invited to share in such a school, and writing letters to a picked group of those whom I believed would be especially interested in the discipline of a ten weeks' session, I said that we would meet for an hour each Tuesday for the ten weeks preceding Christmas. I felt that more would accept if a time limit of ten weeks was placed, rather than suggesting indefinite meetings over a year. As a result of acceptances, three groups were planned, two for adults, one for high school young people.

Meeting for an hour each Tuesday morning, one group at 9, the next at 10:30, women alone shared this first experiment, under my leadership. We sat in silence for the first thirty minutes, reading whatever devotional materials we had brought, or had picked up from a table near the chapel where we met. Then to break the silence, I commented upon some thought that had come to me in the silence, after which I asked for others to share an insight that had come to them. Sometimes only one or two spoke, and sometimes several others shared; only once in the ten weeks did no one share. I had announced earlier that no one would be required to do so, that we were to speak as we felt led.

After the period of sharing, which varied according to those taking part, I spoke for a few moments, about the purpose of meeting at first (to learn to pray as a form of communion with God through which we might learn his will for us in daily living) and answered any questions about this. In later sessions I spoke about the principles we had accepted and the discipline, both of which came from the Trueblood book earlier mentioned. These five guiding principles were Commitment, Witness, Fellowship, Vocation, and Discipline; this last being further broken down into Worship,

Solitude, Silence, Love in Action, and Simplicity or Austerity.

In addition to this general discipline I suggested a specific one for each group: that we pray each day by name for each other member within the group, that we pray for the minister and congregation each day for the following Sunday's service of worship, that we use grace, silent or spoken, before each meal, and that we pray each day by name for the eight young people in the Wednesday group (about which I will write further on).

Over the ten weeks we carried on the above procedure, seven women in one group, ten in the second, it being understood that we would not permit more than twelve in a group. I placed some forty devotional books and pamphlets on the tables near the chapel door, and each week most of the group members took home one or more of these to read during her own quiet time at home. (It was agreed in the discipline under Silence and Solitude that a minimum of fifteen minutes each day, with the hope of reaching an hour, would be set aside for one's own private meditation and prayer). In the period of sharing each week questions were raised or problems brought up concerning these various principles and disciplines, in which the group helped those who asked.

As a result of these beginnings in prayer, all the women except one decided to continue for twelve weeks between Christmas and Easter. Others too came in, and a third adult group was established. In this new period one met in the morning, solely for women, and two in the evening, at 7 and at 8:30, for men and women, all on Tuesdays.

In this new series a directed meditation was prepared, each member taking a copy of it into the chapel for use during the period of silence. After each had read and considered this meditation, he was free to read whatever other material may have been brought along. At the close of the silence, I made a comment concerning the directed meditation, then asked: "Out of this paper or your other reading, what would you like to share with us?" Thus, we had a common unity undegirding our silence, yet we were free

*Minister, Dover Congregational Church, Westlake, Ohio.

to read and consider whatever we might wish.

Presentation of Papers

Then a second innovation was the presentation of brief papers, one for each week, on steps in growth through prayer. I presented the paper after the brief time of sharing, spoke about it to answer quickly first questions, then asked that it be studied and as far as possible practiced during the week. After the first week, I went back each time to seek questions, comments, problems, arising from the paper of the week earlier, before proceeding to a new paper.

Over the twelve weeks the papers were on morning prayer, evening prayer, ejaculatory prayer, the use of silence, aids to meditation, intercessory prayer, growth in discipline, commitment, simplicity, love in action, spiritual dryness and watchwords. Each paper suggested some particular experiment to follow during the week. For example, morning exercises gave specific brief techniques to begin the day. The second week I suggested these be continued, but that similar brief exercises be used before closing the day. The third week I suggested how to use ejaculatory or flash prayers throughout the day. Each week had its special experiment, with the hope that those of the weeks before would continue.

It was the growing snowball idea, but it worked. For each member was told that these were but helps to practicing the presence of God, and when one felt a sense of the reality of God's presence, let go the technique and hold to the reality. Some helps have continued even two years later, the use of morning and evening brief prayers, the ever-growing use of ejaculatory prayers, the sense of deeper and deeper commitment, the realization of a newer and more significant simplicity in the use of time and money. The habit of communion, like the habit of walking, caused preoccupation with technique to be pushed aside to its rightful minor place—after the habit became a habit!

Before giving an appraisal of these groups—and they are continuing through their second full year of experiments—let me go back to a brief discussion of the youth group meeting on Wednesday mornings. Because the eight young people had to be in school just after 8:30, we met for the half hour, 8-8:30. Fifteen minutes were spent in silence, and briefly the remaining fifteen minutes followed the practice of the adult groups, sharing, then presentation of a thought or paper for the week. In this group there was much less sharing, partly because



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of the time element, partly because of immaturity. But each young person spoke of gains from the year's experiment, a sense of inner strength, the lessening of the hold of bad temper, irritations, prejudices, etc., a feeling of oneness with each other, a firsthand experience of the presence of God, a new awareness of one's place in life.

Solely because of a change in schedules the youth group could not be continued this fall, but some of the group have carried on the daily time of silence for themselves here in their homes, and one in college. Unfortunately the loss of the weekly discipline of group action has turned some away from the growth that might have been theirs; but all even yet speak of the growth that was during that year.

This fall new women have come into the groups, but no new men, for the men are still a little shy of the commitment involved. Continuing our experimenting, I prepare directed meditations for each of us, but break the silence with directed prayers, briefly worded, for folk sick, discouraged, confused, asking that we hold the person (name used some of the time, not used where it might be embarrassing) before the love and mercy of God. Then after repeating together the Lord's Prayer slowly, I comment on a thought from the meditation, and continue with the sharing as last year. The papers are not every week, but have continued as helps to our spiritual growth, further suggestions on discipline, commitment, what to pray for, various additional aids to meditation, and further use of experimental forms of prayer.

Now, what is happening through all this? First, for each one of us it meant a careful self-examination, in which we came to see ourselves with clarity, in all our weakness and doubt. Here was the beginning of growth, for complacency had to be broken before the Spirit of God could enter. But here, too, I had to encourage, lest any of us become overwhelmed by our sense of inadequacy. So the second step came readily.

This was turning to the strength of the Spirit, getting out of ourselves, lest we be lost in introspection. Here group sharing had its significance, for we brought out into the open our doubts and fears and difficulties where each might help. Yet I was careful to see that at no time did we fall into the trap of "confessions" by which we might glamorize our weakness. Instead, the leading was pointed forward, never backward, couched in positive terms, never negative ones. We did not talk about how "bad" we were. We talked about how good God was. There is

WAR BRIEFS

The Character of Syngman Rhee

In this historic church where President Syngman Rhee, of the Republic of Korea regularly worshipped for years, until his return to his native land, in this church where he is not only respected but revered, I cannot refrain from defending him from the false castigations that have been heaped upon him in the public press during the past momentous week by those who like to be called experts on the Far East, and echoed by some columnists. I cannot hope to have my voice heard across the land where these gratuitous insinuations have been carried regarding this truly great man who has given his life to the Korean cause.

After more than a decade of close friendship with Syngman Rhee and intimate association with the Korean cause across many years, I can truly say that no leader that I have met in the quarter of a century that I have lived in Washington has more genuinely democratic ideas and is more alert to the devastation of Marxism than is Syngman Rhee. To attack him now, as some have done this last week when, even before our great decision, he was fighting bravely with inadequate defenses and with his back to the wall, is not exactly good sportsmanship.

We are grateful that in a nationwide broadcast last night, John Foster Dulles, just back from Korea, declared that the amazing progress of Korea under the administration of Syngman Rhee was probably one of the chief reasons that the Communists struck at this time. That statement will be somewhat of an antidote for the poison of the reckless and false statements that have been made in the American press since this sneak attack from the North was made.

There are many Americans who would risk the prophecy that long after the instigators of these unethical and undeserved attacks upon a very great man, at a most unfortunate time, are forgotten, Syngman Rhee will be in the history books as the George Washington of Korea.

Statement by Frederick Brown Harris, minister of Foundry Methodist Church, Washington, D. C., and Chaplain of the U. S. Senate.

quite a difference!

Then we turned to witnessing, both by word of mouth and by changed lives. One husband said, "If the group in so short a time can make so marked a change for the better in my wife—and she is a good woman—then I want to be in it too." And he has continued when others dropped out. A woman seeking workers in a church group found only refusals. But she asked later to join our groups, for, said she, "When I went back a second time to some folk in the groups, they said they would work. I want to be a part of a fellowship that does that!" Their changed attitude toward serving in church and community was the best kind of witness.

Not content with telling others about their changed personalities, or by letting others find it out by their changed actions, members of the group also sought specific opportunities for service. Several, once a month, go to a neighboring nursing home for aged folk, taking an hour of social mixing, a tea, some music and a friendliness that has won these otherwise cynical and tired old people. They do not carry a religious program. It is one of friendliness that is truly Christian.

Others have become parish visitors, going to directed homes for calling, upon shut-ins to bring a cheerful afternoon or to other homes where a woman can help even more than the call of the minister. Some have helped with church work, folding papers, painting the simple altar in the chapel, scrubbing floors to make the chapel more beautiful, a mixture of things. All share in two money projects: the partial support of a Japanese girl attending the University of Chicago, and the purchase of devotional books for use in six churches that have started prayer cells as a result of our experience. Some have helped a displaced person's family, while others have shared in other church or community projects.

We are watchful that we do not become spiritual snobs. The directed meditations with their pointed questions, and the thoughtful and prayerful sharing in the groups, help keep us humble. None of us feel that he has arrived, but all of us know that finally we are on the way.

Though I write the directed meditations myself, a leader can get such from many sources. As a sample, though, the following suggests the kind of probing these often will do, in which the self-examination that may tend to be negative finally is resolved with a positive affirmation:

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sity is the inscription "They say—what do they say? Let them say it." Only maturity of mind and heart permits me to repeat that sentence! How can I forget what others may say about me?

Am I ashamed of my convictions? No, not at all. But Thou dost lead me into new ways that are so different from my former paths. I hesitate to change my life, because others will see how different I am! Will they think I am trying to be better than they are? Will they suspect I am "getting religion"? Is it, O Lord, that I am embarrassed to witness by a changed life the new way that is mine?

Whose approval do I seek? I desire friendships and I cannot afford to lose a single one. I want to be loved. Yet I would turn to Thee with all my heart, for Thy smile must come first. Help me, O Lord, to seek first Thy kingdom, Thy love, Thy approval, even though others may not understand, even though they may criticize.

Grant to me, O God, the fullness of faith in Thee, of complete trust in Thy love. Teach me how to live before Thee and before my friends and loved ones that with assurance and loyalty I may reveal Thy love, Thy joy, Thy peace in every act, in every thought. I would put Thee first. I would not hesitate to witness for Thee. I do love Thee with my whole heart and soul and mind and strength.

"So they called the men in and ordered them not to speak or teach a single sentence about the name of Jesus. But Peter and John replied: 'Decide for yourselves whether it is right before God to obey you rather than God. Certainly we cannot give up speaking of what we have seen and heard.'"

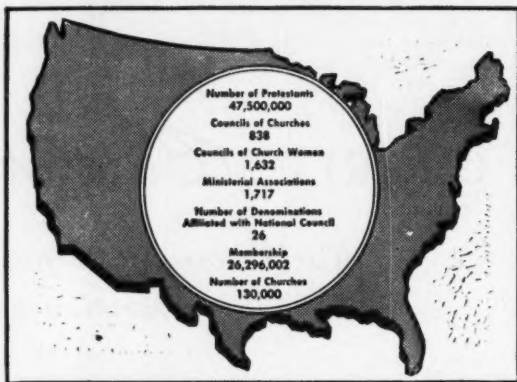
Annual Bride and Groom Service

(From page 14)

offspring is created. The question eventually arises, "Who is right, father or mother?" The consequence is that a youth will conclude that he cannot go to his mother's church without giving offense to the father. Nothing is more natural than that throughout his life there will be a lukewarm attitude toward God and the church.

Children are a normal part of marriage. Often, parents will foolishly advise their sons and daughters upon marriage against having children until all the furniture is bought and the money saved. One of the purposes of marriage is to bear children, and when couples voluntarily avoid this responsibility they are casting aside one of the binding forces of their union. Marriage is an institution, not alone to permit two people to find enduring love and companionship but also to perpetuate the race by rearing healthy, well rounded citizens for tomorrow. It is a divine obligation to rear children. I recommend that young couples have children deliberately, by mutual agreement. Have as many as your mate can

COOPERATIVE CHRISTIANITY IN U. S.



Cooperative Christianity, pictured in the map, embraces most of the great Protestant and Eastern Orthodox communions, state and local councils of churches, religious education and churchwomen. They will achieve greater unity under the leadership of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. which will be formed at Cleveland, Nov. 28-Dec. 1. It will consolidate the co-operative program of the churches in all areas of Christian life, at home and abroad.

wholeheartedly agree to, and then both together throw yourselves into the great adventure of giving them the best possible start in life. Remember that the finest things you can give your children are courage, self-respect, faith, understanding of beauty, comradeship and the eager desire to serve their fellowmen.

Entirely too much reliance is placed today on nursery schools, baby-sitters, summer day camps, directed after school play. To me, they suggest a lot of buck-passing. When the children arrive, the responsibility of their rearing should fall directly upon the shoulders of the parents. There are many instances today where the love of children is directed more toward the grandparents than to their own parents, because they are in the company of the grandparents for longer periods of time. The plan of depositing babies at the home of the old folks, in order that couples might be foot-loose and carefree, is to my way of thinking a clear evasion of responsibility.

There should be a sharing of the financial worries. Often, a man in the thought of saving his wife from anxiety in this respect, will keep her in ignorance of just what is going on. He should ever count his wife a partner, and she should be willing to live up to that confidence, evincing always a great interest in household expenses. When she is unaware of her husband's obligations, she quite likely will be careless in her expenditures, and remember a spendthrift wife can carry a man to destruction. Questions, such as the proportion of the amount of the income to be spent on the table, clothing, pleasure, books, and magazines, the matter of the allowance for the children, and the amount to be given toward the Lord's work, should be thoroughly discussed and a full agreement reached.

VI.

To avoid friction in the family, both husband and wife should continue to develop in the realm of personality and mind. A wife of several years said: "He acts bored stiff, and I am, too. All we do is sit around, staring at each other." Yes, romance can become very humdrum if its one achievement is to say, "We've been married five years, ten years, twenty-five years, or fifty years." Marriage should never become a jail sentence. It should improve with time.

The antidote for the lessening of boredom in the marriage relationship is growth. Boredom sets in when a husband or wife knows exactly what the other will do next. The element of novelty, so important in the marriage relationship, is kept alive only when the mind continues to grow. Always must newness be emphasized. Couples should go out together as much as possible; but just so they don't get into a rut, they should endeavor to go to a different movie, to a new restaurant. Send the wheels of the car speeding in a new direction, and try to plan the hike along a new road. Let husband and wife launch new projects, hatch out new plans for the garden, or make new sketches for the little summer home they hope someday to buy.

Yes, it is boredom that breeds friction. Each one in the marriage may be steady, faithful, meticulous in the discharge of his duties. Yet, living together can become dull and eventually lose its sparkle. The game of love is never won. You are never quite out of the danger area. Romance thrives only when there is warmth and enthusiasm which stems from a fertile brain. To remain desirable requires brains and foresight. Usually, it is when there is nothing to do that the sharp words are spoken and the eruptions occur.

The man away all day, meeting new

situations in his work, meeting new people, coming in contact with new ideas, will hardly be interested listening night after night, in his hours of recreation, to his wife talking of nothing in particular. It is such a wife who is very likely to be the one to fuss because he doesn't talk enough. The children, too, are at school absorbing knowledge. The wife and mother, therefore, who is content just to stand still when all the rest of the family are making new conquests of knowledge, is very likely to try to cover up her own inadequacy by imposing her will on them.

Today, there are countless avenues open for one to develop along almost any line—books, magazines, radio, television. All of these bring the great dramas of life and love right into the family circle, and certainly modern women, with their multitude of kitchen gadgets, will find time for creative pursuits. And while time is powerless against the qualities of charm, simplicity and tenderness, it is well to remember that they are qualities which are kept alive only when given time and study.

The lack of companionship, so often the complaint of husbands and wives, very often is due to the increasing gap brought about by the years between their respective mentalities. G. K. Chesterton wisely says: "People generally quarrel because they cannot argue." Minds which do not grow are likely to become warped. It is certainly very apparent that if one is to be a rewarding companion, sharing interest in the other's work, friends, hobbies, reading and study, that the mind must be constantly developing, and the personality growing.

Conclusion

In closing, the question might well be asked, "Just what are the qualities which make one easy to live with?" They are love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance. These qualities, the Apostle Paul calls the "fruit of the spirit." Certainly, any home wherein they dwell will be a home where harmony will prevail.

It is when we accept the Lord Jesus Christ as Redeemer and Lord that the Holy Spirit begins his gracious work in us. A young couple who begin their married lives before the altar, and there pledge their undying love and loyalty to each other, as in the very presence of God, make a wonderful start toward domestic happiness. In interviewing a couple just recently, I spoke of spiritual values. The young woman recognized that the Holy Spirit was at work in her heart. She expressed deep concern in the fact that she had never been baptized. In the ensuing conversation, it was also revealed that the young man had not accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as his own personal Saviour. I undertook to make it clear to them the matter of having Christ in their lives was of grave importance, and they both willingly accepted him. It was a beautiful sight to see these two young people on the day of their marriage to stand first before the font, there to make the confession which made them followers of the Lord Jesus: then to go before the altar and take the vows, making them man and wife. Our homes must have the help of God,



**"The work which centuries might have done
must crowd the hours of setting sun."**

John R. Mott thus epitomizes the urgency that faces Christians today. The picture shows him examining a map that marks the homes of the writers of meditations in the International Number.

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if they are to be lasting institutions. Physical desire, even intellectual companionship are not enough to make a happy pair. Nothing can match religion in the contribution it makes to harmony in domestic life.

Each fruit of the spirit is vital. Love is an element of life that can become an ingredient in every action. Keep the honeymoon light aglow by affectionate little acts and words. How often a husband—a wife, starves for just a little love, a bit of appreciation. Never be afraid to let your mate know you love him, that it makes you happy to love him. Love mixes well with everything. It is not a finished product. Like everything that lives, it must be kept growing, or it wastes away. And love will grow, as we grow in grace and in the knowledge and love of God.

Joy and peace! How we need them in our homes today. More to be desired are they than the earning of a sumptuous living, or providing a spotless home. These qualities stem from understanding and cooperation, which children of God should surely possess.

And long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, what marvels the generous expression of these qualities in the marriage relationship can accomplish. The most important factor in making any marriage work is the determination of the partners to make it work. Yet so many lack the patience and the stamina. Far too quickly are they bruised and ready to quit. So many are too anxious to put their marriage upon a fifty-fifty basis. For a marriage to be successful and happy, a better working proportion would be nearer seventy-five—twenty-five. The source of much of the disturbance in the family is simply selfishness. Each member in the home should pray "less of self and more of thee." It certainly would help the bride who was very unhappy unless she received at least thirty compliments from her husband each day. And the husband who day after day takes his wife for granted could well learn to pray that prayer.

John Oxenham describes the home of the Christian family in these words:

"The cornerstone in truth is laid;
The guardian walls of honor made;
The roof of faith is built above;
The fire upon the hearth is love;
Though rains descend and loud winds
 call,
This happy home shall never fall."

And finally, faith, meekness, temperance. When a young bride and groom are able to pray together over their unpaid bills, their threatened unemployment, their disagreements and their unprecedented problems, they can enjoy the glorious promise that they at last will be able to unravel their difficulties.

I think that Edgar A. Guest has caught the spirit of the home in which it would be delightful to live; in his simple, lilting language, he expresses it:

"A little path to a little gate,
A shout of glee where the children wait;
A simple meal when the day is done,
Good appetites when the food comes on,
With love to rule at the table fair—
Oh, what excellen't this anywhere?
Count your riches and boast your

Biographical Sermon for September

James Keir Hardie - - Socialist

by Thomas H. Warner

Blessed is he that considereth the poor.—Psalm 41:1

JAMES KEIR HARDIE was born in Lanarkshire, Scotland, August 15, 1856. He died September 25, 1915.

Hardie's parents were too poor to send him to school. He had to earn his living before he could read or write. At the age of ten he was the only breadwinner of the family. His father was searching for work. He was earning 3s. 6d. a week for a twelve-hour day. One winter morning, coming from his home where there was neither fire nor food, he arrived at his work fifteen minutes late. His employer, a baker, a man famous for his religion, dismissed him, refusing to listen to his explanation.

At ten years of age Hardie started work as a miner. His first job was to open and shut a door. This left him some free time, and he used it to learn how to read and write. His mind was aroused by the reading of Carlyle's *Sartor Resartus*.

As time went on Hardie began to play a leading part in a Miners' Union. For this he was discharged. He then became editor of a paper, but continued his work for the Union. He was elected secretary of the Union in 1880.

In 1892 Hardie became one of the founders of the Independent Labor

Party. He was elected to Parliament in the same year and served for three years. He was re-elected in 1902.

In 1888, with the support of his miners, Hardie had become a candidate as an independent at a by-election in Mid-Lanarkshire. He had to meet the arguments and the slanders which confronted every independent Socialist candidate. He split the Progressive vote. Liberal headquarters promised him his expenses, a salary of three hundred pounds, and a safe Liberal seat if he would withdraw, but he refused. He was soundly defeated, polling only 600 votes out of 6,000.

An incident that occurred in the General Election of 1895 throws a light on the character of Hardie. In Newcastle a Labor candidate was opposing John Morley. At a rally just before the election he apologized to the voters because he had no conveyances to take them to the polls. He advised them to make use of the Liberal and Conservative conveyances. They need not say they were going to vote the Labor ticket.

When Hardie arrived to speak in behalf of the candidate he was told of the advice he had given. He told the workers it would be unworthy of them to behave as he had suggested. He urged them to walk to the polls and proclaim their Socialist faith without fear. This was characteristic of Hardie. He would rather have lost every election than stoop to unworthy practices.

In 1896, Hardie was elected for South-West Ham, and took his seat as the first independent Labor member. He incurred the displeasure of the House by entering it dressed in a tweed suit and a cloth cap. He would not wear the dress of another class.

Hardie's duty, as he saw it, was to draw the attention of a self-satisfied middle-class assembly to the bitter realities of working-class life. For the first time in its history Parliament had to face a recital of the facts, and to listen to a motion to alleviate some of them.

On a single day three events were reported. M. Carnot, the French President was assassinated. An heir was born to the Duke of York, and 200 miners lost their lives in a colliery disaster. The Commons passed a resolution of condolence with the French

(Turn to page 26)

But more than these you can never claim:
The faith and love of the little few
Who watch and wait at the dusk for you.
If your home be glad at the long day's close,
You have all that any man ever knows.
If peace be yours when the shadows fall,
They can have no more in a marble hall.
And a king by his queen is never met
With a warmer welcome than that you get.
And the kiss she gives when you come from town
Would be the same if she wore a crown.
For whether you're rich or whether you're great
Doesn't matter at all where the children wait.
If love be there when the day is spent
And you sit down to your meal content,
If there's joy in your home, then while you live
You have all that this life on earth can give."



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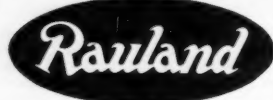
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WAR BRIEFS

Federal Council Protests Loan to Franco

The Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, at its Biennial meeting, December 1-3, 1948, adopted a statement disapproving the giving of aid or comfort to Franco Spain. On the basis of this statement, and with the knowledge and approval of the chairman of our Department of International Justice and Goodwill, Bishop William Scarlett, I write to protest the action taken by the Senate in approving a \$100,000,000 loan to Spain. We are of the belief that the preponderant majority of our people support the action of President Truman and of Secretary of State Acheson in their forthright criticism of the Senate's action in this matter.

It is one thing for the Spanish Government to seek a loan from the Export-Import Bank for purely economic reasons. It is another, and far different thing for the Congress of the United States to take an action which is being widely construed, at home and abroad, as implying political endorsement of the Franco regime, which regime has denied and still denies those basic civil and religious rights and freedoms cherished by all men of goodwill.

Moreover, for the United States, unilaterally to take an action requiring the ECA to exercise responsibility in the administration of the proposed loan without prior consultation with the Marshall Plan countries, and without the endorsement of those countries, would be, in our view, a serious diplomatic blunder. We share with you the desire to find effective measures of resisting the aggressions of Communism. We do not believe, however, that a government-sponsored loan to Spain is among such measures.

We trust that when the Senate and House leaders discuss the Omnibus Appropriation Bill in conference, they will strike out the provisions for a Spanish loan.

Walter W. VanKirk

Biographical Sermon for September

(From page 24)

Republic and one of congratulation to the royal family. Hardie asked the Liberal government to send a resolution of sympathy to the families of the dead miners. When this was refused, Hardie made his protest by opposing the motion on the birth of the prince. This aroused bitter and widespread hostility.

But Hardie was gradually making headway. There was a Liberal peer who had great influence in Scotland because of his large gifts to Christian missions. In a pamphlet Hardie described the conditions at the chemical works from which he drew his wealth. His employees had to work under conditions ruinous to health, on Sundays as well as weekdays, on a twelve-hour day, without a break for meals, for a wage of threepence or fourpence an hour. The exposure was resented by the well-to-do, but it resulted in changes that made the lot of the employees easier.

Hardie's lifework was the building up of a Socialist Party. It was the Independent Labor Party, which Hardie founded in 1893. He worked incessantly on an income that seldom exceeded four pounds a week. He edited the *Labour Leader* and travelled all over the country, speaking each Sunday to a new audience. He had able lieutenants, including MacDonald and Snowden. His character stamped itself upon the organization. It relied on unpaid workers, and developed a religious spirit which permeated it.

There has always been a religious atmosphere in the British Parliament. From the sixteenth century prayer has been offered at every meeting of the House of Commons. Here is an extract from the ancient prayer which is still used. "Almighty God, . . . we, thine unworthy servants here gathered together in thy name, do most humbly beseech thee to send down the heavenly wisdom from above, to direct and guide us in all our consultations. . . ."

Hardie's first aim was to win a life of freedom, self-respect and security for the worker. The common ownership of land and capital was for him the means, not the end. The end was the creation of a fraternal society with service rather than competition as its motive.

Hardie believed that this could be attained through constitutional means. Talk about revolution he dismissed with contempt. He said Socialism cannot grow out of class hatred, its aim is to blend all classes into one human family.

Women played a big role in the movement. Hardie was their staunch supporter in their efforts to secure the vote. No failure discouraged the Independ-

dent Labor Party. In 1895 it put up twenty-seven candidates for Parliament, and all of them, including Hardie, were defeated. In 1900 he got back as member for Merthyr with the support of the Welsh miners. At last, with the support of the trade unions, the Labor Party was founded. When the 1906 Parliament met the party had twenty-nine members with Hardie as its first chairman. He had achieved his purpose. The movement reached its climax, and Hardie achieved his central purpose, when after World War II, the Labor Party won the British elections by an overwhelming majority and took over the government.

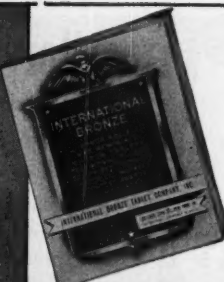
A speaker paid this tribute to Hardie. "Hardie, as his opponents knew him, was the fearless and uncompromising fighter. Among his friends he was the gentlest of men, inspired by a deeply religious faith, to which he clung even when he was attacking the churches. Deep down, this man was a poet, though the few poems he wrote were not first-rate. When last I saw him, he was tending the flowers which he had grown in the sunless court off Fleet Street, where he lived in a single room. There were more brilliant intellects than his in the Socialist movement of those days. His greatness lay in his integrity, his courage and his love for his fellow-men."

FIXED POINTS ON THE HORIZON

It is said that in the pioneering days of our country two travelers came to a swift-moving stream. The older explained to his inexperienced companion that the only way to make the passage was to hold to the saddle of his mount and let the swimming horse carry him across. So they started. But in midstream the younger man became confused, lost his grip, and was carried downstream by the current. At great personal risk, the other man left his horse and pulled his friend to shore. When they had recovered their strength enough to speak, the veteran woodsman said: "Do you know why that happened? I'll tell you. Whenever you get in midstream, you must pick out some fixed point on the other shore and keep your eye on that. You became confused by the currents in midstream, and that's why you lost your grip."

This illustrates one service of an intelligent faith in immortality. It is a fixed point on the horizon on which the spirit fixes its gaze in the currents of midpassage. From *The News in Religion* by Gene E. Bartlett; Abingdon-Cokesbury Press.

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Expository Preaching

by Amos John Traver*

"The most compensating kind of preaching." That is what they tell us. Professor Traver gives some very explicit instructions for achieving proficiency in the art of expository preaching.

TEXTBOOKS in homiletics usually classify sermons under three heads: topical, textual and expository. In the attempt to distinguish textual from expository sermons, confusion follows. The use of a text by no means insures an exposition of the text. In fact a large number of sermons published with a text are topical. The text is used as a pretext, for a sermon that could well do without it. It is probably good that a text is discovered that will give support to the topic. My old professor of preaching used to advise a text for every sermon. He would say "Better use a text, young men, for it may be all your congregation will take away with them." He had something there! He did add a word about dragging in texts that must be warped out of their context in order to serve the preacher's purpose. "If the text has smallpox," he said, "the sermon ought to be so well exposed to it that it would catch it."

Expository preaching does not depend on the length of the text. In the attempt to classify textual and expository sermons, homiletical experts struggle to clarify the difference. It usually boils down to the question of length of text. If the text is a verse or two the sermon is classified as textual. If a longer passage of Scripture is selected, the sermon is expository. Accepting the fact that a different sermon technique is required for exposition of a longer text, nevertheless both are expository. I prefer to avoid the confusion in the threefold classification by the use of the two terms, topical and expository.

The difference is clearly a matter of approach. In topical preaching, the sermon begins with a topic and may or may not draw support from a text or from Scriptural references. In expository preaching the sermon stems from a text or passage of Scripture. Through it the Scripture speaks directly to the congregation. The preacher is concerned mainly that it speaks its own message. His business is to understand

its meaning and to clarify it and apply it to the problems of twentieth century life. If he is a diligent and sincere student of the Word he will often find that he is like Abram of Ur who "went forth, although he did not know where he was to go." His problem will be to avoid the by-lanes, keep to the main highway, and come to his destination within twenty minutes' preaching time. He is "Servant of the Word" yet is no less responsible for channeling the Word to the needs of his people. He must unify the message, spear-point it so that it makes its impact. He must be a sound workman, with no need to be ashamed of the way in which he handles the word of truth.

There are dangers involved in expository preaching. They should be clearly recognized. Errors in interpretation are easily made when preparation is hurried. Some so-called expository sermons are rambling and lack unity. "Glorified and extended Sunday school lessons" is one critic's comment. Another has compared them to the tracks of a hound-dog that has lost the scent of a rabbit. They may lack application to present-day needs. Some passages could be treated objectively in the assurance that the application was so clearly implied that it was unnecessary to declare it. Other passages require very definite application or the average congregation would miss the point.

The problem of elimination is a real one. It is said that a good editor is known by his scissors and wastebasket. So the effective expository preacher is known as well by what he leaves out as by what he includes. He must establish his sermon purpose so clearly that it becomes a test for each part of his sermon. The alert preacher will have a number of suggestions for additional sermons after the study of a passage of Scripture. His temptation is to try to include them all in one sermon.

The preacher will do well to save questions of a critical or controversial nature for his study. Expository sermons do not need to include all the varied interpretations of Biblical

scholars. If the preacher can not settle for himself an interpretation of Scripture, he would better preach on some other passage. To fight the battles of the critics in the pulpit will be either to confuse the congregation or to direct their minds to academic questions and away from the application of Scripture to their own soul needs.

Thought patterns and vocabulary must be keyed to the level of the congregation. The preacher will study all that the scholars have written on the Scripture he is using for his sermon. The language of the scholars is as clear to him as are the words used in a medical textbook to the physician. He must avoid the use of technical, theological terms in his preaching unless he has broken them down into everyday English. One well-known preacher made out a list of twenty-five theological terms taken from some of his sermons and gave them for definition to twenty-five of his most intelligent laymen. The result—a greatly simplified vocabulary. Depth of scholarship is not relative to the number of polysyllable words in a sermon. The best exegesis is simple and understandable. This danger of professionalism in the language of preaching is not confined to exposition.

On the positive side, the expository method of preaching places the source of the sermon in the Word. If the preacher believes that the saving truth of the gospel is by revelation, the gift of God's grace, expository preaching has its strongest argument. He stands in his pulpit, not to share with the congregation his own peculiar philosophy or to speak within the narrow limits of his own special interests. Rather he becomes the channel through which flows the eternal truth from the inexhaustible fountain of God's word. This concept of his calling does not debar him from topical sermons, but it makes expository preaching the more normal and satisfying. It saves him from monotonous harping on one favorite subject. It grants him the privilege of intensive study of the Word. It compels him to deal with the great themes of divine revelation. It establishes for him the point of view of Scripture from which to see life. It

*Of the Department of Practical Theology, Hanna Divinity School, Springfield, Ohio.



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makes him honest in the use of the word.

Charles Reynolds Brown in his *The Art of Preaching* said that in his last pastorate before entering a professorship, he had remained for fifteen years. During these years he figured that he had preached what would add up to six full years of expository sermons. He comments, "And I believe that the testimony of at least two-thirds of the people in that church would confirm my own belief that this was the most profitable portion of my preaching from that pulpit." If presented with skill, nothing will so satisfy the soul-hunger of men as expository preaching.

Preachers who serve churches where the lessons for the church year are followed will be at home in expository preaching. No such system, however historic, should be a straight-jacket. There should be liberty to turn aside from the assigned lessons when there are good reasons for it. But the preacher who must deal with these lessons, week after week, will find himself pulled out of ruts of thinking and inevitably preaching on the whole range of gospel truth. If the preacher has no such guide, he would do well to plan his Bible study well in advance and with an eye to treating the great messages of the word within a given

time. He should aim at variety of theme but never as an end in itself. He preaches for a verdict in men's minds and hearts. The whole gospel must be allowed to do its work in them.

Methods of preparation for expository preaching can be offered only as the result of one man's experience. The best method for each preacher is the one that produces the best sermons. My own ministry began over thirty-five years ago. For the first two or three years I preached quite regularly at the morning service on the assigned gospel for the day. Then I turned to the epistles. Sometimes, I preached from another passage usually presenting a theme stressed in the lessons for the day. More frequently I found my text in the lessons. For the second service a review of my sermon outlines, over a thousand in my files, shows many series of sermons, often based on the consecutive study of a book of the Bible.

My first task was the mastery of the Scripture itself. For this I depended upon original reading and on good commentaries. Then I turned to my topical file to see what references I had from my general reading. Finally I read all the sermons I could find that had been preached on my text. By this time my scratch paper was full of notes. The process of sermon building began with the selection of a sermon purpose. Usually, I wrote that out in a short paragraph or in one sentence. Then that purpose became the unifying guide for the selection of materials. My usual introduction was the Scriptural setting of the text with its interpretation. This was followed by a clear outline of the points suggested from the Scripture and within the purpose of the sermon. How many? My sermons show the traditional, three-point outline far too regularly. Few or many, the Scripture should be the guide in selection and order. With the outline fairly well established, the filling-in process was next. This includes illustrations, of course, when they clearly illustrate.

Intensive Bible study as the first step in sermon building should be a "must" with the evangelical preacher. Texts used as mottoes, without any study or use of their context, are an abomination. Better to preach without a text than to warp it out of its original meaning in order to claim the authority of God's word for a purely personal sermon. Expository preaching is not easy, but it is rewarding. The preacher who saturates himself with the word of God is bound to grow in spiritual stature and in preaching power.

Divorce Can Be Prevented

A Sermon by J. Herbert Garner *

"Some of the Pharisees came to Jesus to put him to the proof by the question, Has a person a right to divorce his partner in marriage for any sort of reason? Have you not read, Jesus replied, that he who created them, created them from the beginning male and female, and said: For this reason a person shall leave his father and mother and cling to his marriage partner, and the two shall be one. Thus they are no longer two, but one. What therefore God has joined together, let no human being separate. Why then, they said, did Moses lay it down that we were to divorce by giving a separation notice? Moses, Jesus replied, in consideration of your stubborn hearts permitted you to divorce . . . but it was not so from the beginning of things. I tell you that whoever divorces for any reason except unchastity, and marries another person, commits adultery . . . and whoever marries a divorced person (except on such grounds) commits adultery. The disciples (note, not the Pharisees) said to him, If that be the case, then it is better not to marry. True, Jesus said to them, this truth is not practicable for everyone, it is only for those who have the grace to appreciate it. There are some who from their birth have been disqualified for marriage, others who have been so disqualified by their environments and associations, and still others who have disqualified themselves."—Matthew 19: 3-12

DIVORCE is one of the prominent social problems that can and must be solved. It is a challenge that must be faced squarely and sympathetically and resolved constructively—a tragedy that we ought to and are able to prevent! These assertions will become actualities when intelligent people, motivated by the spirit of Christ, will sincerely devote themselves to a better understanding and a clearer conception of what divorce indicates, means and does. It will require an increasingly more thorough and effective application of both the principles and spirit of Christ in approaching it, in attempting to prevent it and to correct the factors that lead up to it. We must, as Christian people, reaffirm our conviction in the New Testament basis of love, "Love beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. Love never fails!" We must become proponents of the fact that divorce can be prevented and that "divorce won't help." Christianity, by its way of

creative living, its call to repentance, forgiveness and redemption, has the most important word concerning marital maladjustments that there is to be spoken. Dr. Edmund Bergler calls our attention to some very important divorce figure in his book, *Divorce Won't Help*, in the chapter, *The Case for Monogamy*. Because it sets in motion thoughts that are inseparably related to this whole social concern, let me quote:

"Figures on divorce in the United States indicate that 502,000 divorces were granted in ----. This means that 502,000 men and 502,000 women were directly involved. Besides these 1,004,000 the fate of at least 500,000 children was at stake, even if we assume rather too conservatively that all of the couples concerned had but one child. Besides these, 1,500,000 people directly concerned, an even larger number is indirectly involved. The two parents of the men and women, not to mention the brothers and sisters, which would mean 1,000,000 more, nor the so-called correspondents in marriage, which would be at least one-fourth of a million more—their families, etc., until it is easily discernible that in the year ---- on the basis of the most conservative figures and factors, from six to eight million people were directly victimized by the divorce tragedies during that single year."

As a preface, let us say this—that to prevent divorce

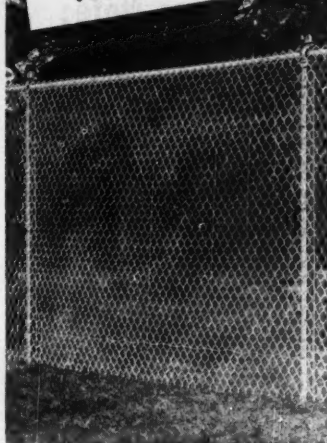
1. We must be honest with ourselves and acknowledge that in most cases divorce has not solved, does not solve, and not only will not solve, but it cannot solve the conflicts, perplexities and entanglements posed as possibilities by its contemplation, or made an unfortunately actual reality by resorting to it.

2. We must be intelligently resourceful, creatively and courageously, yet kindly frank and direct, in trying to bring out and face actual facts so that the generating and controlling causes can be eliminated or sublimated—not merely examined.

3. We must place as our goal the establishment of the experience of domestic harmony and happiness, as Christ proclaimed in his gospel as desirable and possible.

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achieved by mere condemnation, let us refrain from condemning people who have been or are involved in divorce, or those who are threatened or tempted to become enmeshed or victimized by any of the many imaginations or experiences that bring about divorce. Let us rather strive to stimulate that kind of living that will strengthen the home, rehabilitate the home, and renew hope.

5. Basic principles and general counsel capable of individualization must be presented.

6. Individual cases must be separately studied and appraised with all obtainable facts that may be discovered in both the conscious and unconscious realms of personality, as well as from all the social involvements.

While there are some few, but extremely few, cases where divorce has superficially seemed to have made, perhaps, one of the parties involved in it happier, it may still be left open to the question as to whether or not it was the best solution.

Why Divorce?

When we ask ourselves why some divorces take place the obvious implication, or not always clear answer, indicates some of the means by which divorce can be prevented.

1. Some people are disqualified for marriage to begin with—disqualified in some instances by unfortunate, but nevertheless real circumstances prior or relative to their birth or heritage. In this area only the most skilled and sympathetic, only those motivated by the highest Christian ideals, and the broadest training, are qualified to make, even then, extensively qualified recommendations.

2. There are those who have been disqualified for marriage by reason of their environments, associations and indoctrinations—by desires and concepts that, however well designed or by whomsoever, nevertheless disqualify them for a happy and wholesome marriage. Many, if not most, of these are capable of proper reeducation that would fit them for marriage.

3. There are others who are disqualified for marriage, or whose marriage breaks down because of disposition or qualities of character which they may or may not desire to take the adequate steps to correct, but until corrected will continue to disqualify. Some of these disqualifying factors are "extreme jealousy," moodiness, depression, nagging (inclined to be hypercritical), indecision, shyness in sex, addiction to drinking or gambling, aversion to marriage in general. According to Dr. Bergler "a simple yardstick for recognizing signs that might lead to failure

in marriage is the lack of ability to work (to work and discharge responsibility), to love tenderly and with normal potency retained, to desire and enjoy social contacts and interests, to enjoy one's hobbies."

4. As strange as the idea might seem to some people, marriage is by no means the best state of life for everyone. There are some people who should be profoundly grateful that they had adequate perspicacity to know and understand themselves, common sense enough, to stay single. Also, there are some who would be more happy married, and some of those who are married who would be happier, not remarried, but single! There are probably as many single men who think they desire marriage as there are single women who think they desire marriage, and who are still outside that blissful state. It is scarcely a question of the tradition that only a man can propose and consummate marriage. The fact of the matter is that most women are the aggressors in seeking marriage, but they succeed magnificently in contriving to get the man to put the question into words, which gives the so-called superior male of the species a sense exalted ego and mastery, concerning which very few are under an illusion.

5. Certain people are just too individualistic, inconsiderate, insincere, self-centered and unwilling to compromise, for the intimacies and inevitable cooperative living that is both made possible and required in marriage.

6. In our Christian concept, in marriage we firmly believe that people should be united by the will of God, as a matter of fact. On the contrary, it cannot help but be obvious that, by deliberate frustration or unintentional rejection of God's will, there are some people who have apparently been united by what the language of scripture sees fit to describe as "the devil."

How Prevention?

1. Divorce can be prevented in the first place before marriage even takes place by using every intelligent means possible to make certain that a person is qualified in mind, spirit, will and imagination, and body for marriage—that he or she is ready for it, really desires marriage, is willing to act and cooperate as marriage patterns require, knows what it involves and appreciates its responsibilities, as well as its privileges.

2. Divorce can be prevented by adequate preliminary counselling, without any evasions, over-emphasis or understatement.

3. Divorce can be prevented by understanding, resolving, learning and grow-

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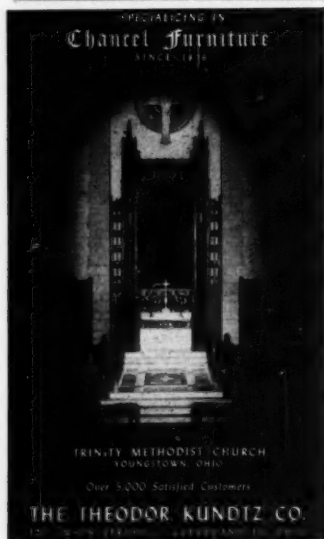
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IF IT COULD BE SEEN!



ing through preliminary situations that, unless creatively disposed of, will result in divorce. As Dr. Bergler says again, "Divorce is based on a series of illusions and falsifications." Right at the very beginning of his book he makes this quotation from Disraeli, "Ignorance never settles a question." Not only does ignorance never settle a question, and not only is divorce based on a series of illusions and falsifications, but we may be able to go on to say that nearly all divorces could be prevented if the marriage in the first place had been definitely established according to the principles and will of God in Christ.

Make certain, unquestionably certain, that marriage is approached and continues on the rock-bottom principle of the love of God in Christ, as revealed in such practical terms as the thirteenth chapter of I Corinthians, and the fifth chapter of Ephesians.

To give some reasonable and relative assurances in marriage we must learn to make the most and best, instead of the least and worst out of trifles. Near-

ly all big things either start with, or are simply an accumulation of little things. What may appear to be big in the eyes of two certain people may not be anything more than a mere speck in the appraisal of any other two people. If we would exercise courage and will power, if we would be alert and resourceful in taking advantage of every little opportunity to make our marriages more Christ-like and blessed, then we would have very little to use in the entirely too frequent and customary practice of making mountains out of molehills, events out of mere incidents, or criticizing or complaining or indulging ourselves in hysterical fixations on the insignificant. In other words, if we would strive to be as magnanimous, as too many of us succeed in being petty, more divorces would never even be thought of at all. Let us follow scripture's counsel, "Set your mind on things that are above and refuse to condescend to things that are mean." "Let this same mind be in you that was also in Christ Jesus." Another rendition of a part of the chapter on

"love" is, "Do not let your thoughts be high-flown, but accommodate yourself to simple ways. "Do not be self-optionated." Seek and pursue ever new and proven old ways of enjoying life. Pay back to no one, and especially not to one you love, evil for evil. Consider what will please. If you can, so far as it depends on you, live in peace, make peace. Let your love be sincere. Learn to endure, to forgive. Don't conform to the base, but "be transformed by the entire renewal of your minds so that you may learn and prove by experience what God's will is."

One effective and promising technique to prevent divorce is creative thinking concerning marriage, and the determination that one will refuse even to think in terms of the possibility of divorce. This is founded and maintained upon the basis of the principle that concerning all of life's problems, challenges and opportunities, one will always cherish and practice the desire to correct, to redeem, to achieve and perfect, and never to look at them from the viewpoint of escape. We do not solve problems by escape. We only take them with us. At the very moment a person begins to think in terms of divorce, he or she should know that right then, and not one second later, he or she is in need of spiritual counsel and therapy. Divorce won't help, because instead of getting rid of or correcting the situation (1) You run away from, reject or lose the only fitting and proper means with which the problem can ever be solved. No one can ever expect to solve a mathematical problem, for example, simply by tearing the paper in half and throwing away one side of the equation—burning it up or putting it in a drawer. Divorce is shelving, not solving the problem, and therefore divorce does not, and cannot help in the average, and by far the vast majority of human relationships. (2) While in the second place one may more or less successfully delude himself into thinking that he has solved some or all of his social, as well as personal problems by divorce, what he actually does is create and multiply other problems—economic, social, personal and domestic, everyone of which demands and will have to have, by the nature of things, some readjustments. If people would realize this fact as intelligently as they should, there would be a great many who would follow this counsel of taking the redemptive, corrective attitude toward unpleasant situations in marriage, and positively and permanently refuse to consider the inferior and impotent policy of resorting to processes that do nothing but complicate,

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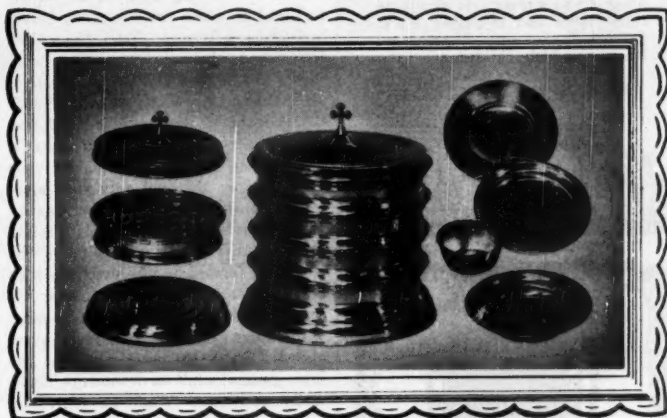
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increase dissatisfactions and multiply difficulties. (3) Always think in terms of the truth that marriage can be made successful! That all imperfections can be perfected! That all things can be corrected, compensated for, and set right in Christ! Love never fails. It believes, bears, endures, hopes and strives in every kind of circumstance—bar none.

A very clear reason that divorce does not and cannot help is that, though you may think that to separate yourself from your spouse will help conditions, the still more basic aspect and cause of your contemplation is not altered one iota. It is bound up and implied in this fact: You can divorce your spouse, but you cannot divorce—yourself! You must eternally live with the self you are, until you yield yourself to Christ, and let him make you the self you can and ought to become, that it is possible for you to become—your best self! Christ proclaims, reiterates and emphasizes this in the statement that "with God all things are possible." If you really believe this you will take a positive and constructive point of view and stand, so that not only your marriage, but also your own personality may achieve the highest. Appreciate the fact that within yourself are the elements, factors or whatever you may desire to call them, that make life really what it is—for you, for those with whom you are intimately associated. Everyone, practically, has the same general adult environments, materially speaking. What an individual makes out of them, and his reactions to them, are determined by those inner personality factors that are largely individualistic, though of course sociologically and spiritually influenced.

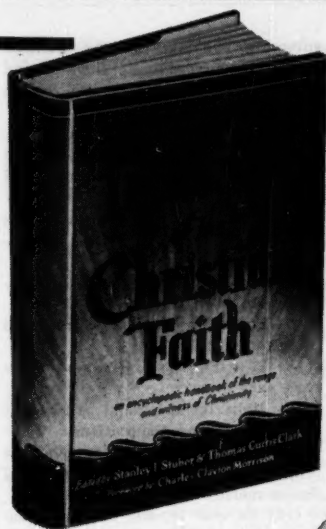
There is no guarantee that the next marriage will be more successful. No, there is not even any likelihood that any second, or subsequent marriage will be better than the first, unless the personality is better and more successful before and during the second or subsequent marriage. "Happy marriages cannot be secured by changing marriage partners." You cannot be happy until the basic requirements for happiness are met in yourself.

A straightforward statement is this, made by a competent authority: "There are no innocent victims in the marital graveyard." Think it over, prayerfully! Since no one can change any event in the past, why not work with one you know once loved you, and work with that same one for a better future? The risk is less, and the chances for success are better for all!

A rather prevalent illusion about di-

vorice is "that children will adapt themselves to the new situation and supposedly have a better chance in a home in which either parent maintains, or a new home with a new parent." On what sound psychological basis is such an "absurd assumption as this predicated? A child will not have a better, but a lesser chance of making a satisfactory adjustment under new non-biological, shall we say, parentage. It is certain that many children would have a better chance for successful adjusted living if their parents would only have the wisdom to improve their own personalities—but a mere exchange of one imperfect parent for another imperfect parent will seldom accomplish any further approach toward perfection. We need to realize that there is nothing disgraceful about being imperfect. The only disgrace about being imperfect is refusing to recognize it, or refusing to do, or being concerned or willing to try to do anything about it in the proper way. "There is none that is perfect—no, not one," and we should each one strive constantly for improvement and perfection, for the sake of everyone else as well as for ourselves. Keep the marriage, forgive, correct, improve, "for the sake of the children" and yourself!

Divorce can be prevented by efforts to overcome what may be called, for lack of an immediately graspable, better term, variegated selfishness. Economic disturbances in marriage are, really, all forms of selfishness. It is seldom the case in a divorce proceeding that the economic factor has been a question of actual physical survival. It is simply that either one, or both parties, are unwilling to do their part in management, in self control, in sharing, in working, in the exercise of intelligent judgment. It is when one's selfish desires interfere, that the majority of people fail to make ends meet. There are, of course, situations where divorce is not contemplated at all, where people actually do fail to make ends meet, simply because of up-current economic circumstances. It is interesting to note that in many instances where there is actual economic poverty, that poverty is a bond that brings the people of the same household closer together, rather than driving them farther apart. We need, as human beings, to be concerned more about the things that really count in the sight of God, than we are about a multitude of things, and displays that we consciously or unconsciously want our neighbors to count. To prevent divorce on the grounds of selfishness, one needs to learn and practice the Christian principles, "Seek ye each the



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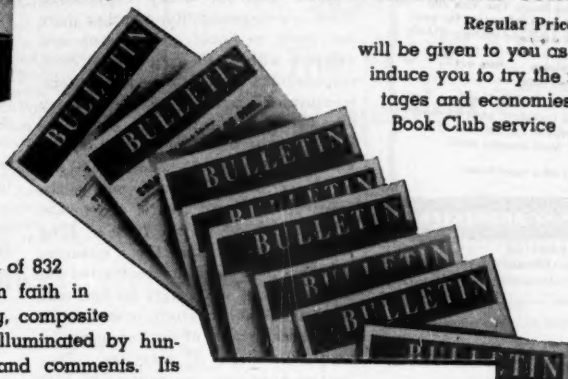
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other's good," "Let each esteem others higher than himself," "It is more blessed to give than to get." Strive to make each other happy in little and large things, on ordinary and special days. "A merry heart doeth good like medicine."

Marriages that are contracted for selfishness, that manifests itself in desires for convenience—money, lust or anything whatsoever that you merely seek to get, rather than the love you want to share and give, are doomed to failure from the outset. The person who marries for convenience of any kind will discover that for every convenience there is a responsibility, and that there can never be honor, privilege or convenience without the concomitant duty, responsibility and self-expenditure commensurate therewith. Those who marry for money will learn that there are many things that money cannot provide, and that those things that are worth the most are entirely outside the scope of money to secure, or provide. Read, if you desire, the fable of King Midas and apply it to those instances in which marriages are contracted for money. Those who marry for lust soon reach the point of satiety, or incapacity for full enjoyment of the potential biological privileges of marriage. They become hard and irresponsible to high impulses, and no one of them can escape its blight upon the mind, spirit and body alike. Those who marry to get anything, may get it, but that is all they will get, and they will be revolted by themselves when they become face to face with the fact that they have suffered such a tremendous loss of the finer experiences of marriage, in their impulse, and pursuit of the impulse, to get one or a few things, at the sacrifice of everything else. Of course, this principle must be carefully applied, or it is fraught with many dangers. Notice here, if you will, the applicability of the parable Christ told of the Pharisee and the Publican. They both got what they wanted, but notice how much more the Publican achieved!

Reluctantly skipping over a great many things that should be said in a sermon on the subject, "Divorce Can Be Prevented," let us epitomize in the following form:

Twelve Rules

- (1) Be sure, be positive, you really want to marry, and that you want to marry the person you do.
- (2) Be as positive as you possibly can, that you are qualified to marry, and especially qualified psychologically and spiritually—or prepare yourself, so that you are.
- (3) Be absolutely positive that you

enter into marriage with the spirit of Christ, and according to the will and principles of God, as revealed in the Gospel of Christ.

(4) Make sure that you continually apply the principles of Christ in your everyday little and large relations of love.

(5) Determine that your marriage is going to succeed with Christ's inspiration.

(6) Refuse to think of even the possibility of divorce.

(7) Be willing to know, correct and improve yourself.

(8) Be willing to forgive and to restore each other.

(9) Make the most and best out of trifles, trials and temptations.

(10) Develop a spirit of happiness, a sense of humor; learn to laugh and "make melody in your heart."

(11) Be true to, and fulfill increasingly your marriage vows and their implications.

(12) Continue to show the sincerity, the reality, and intimacy of your love for your marriage partner as long as you live.

VERSES

By M. Allen Gibson

Thoughts at Dawning

Out of the mists of the ocean,
Up from the rim of the sea,
Dawn breaks in glorious splendor
Ending the long watch for me;
Cliffs that have towered in darkness,
Rocks that have bastioned the shore,
In the first flush of the morning
Threaten my vessel no more.

Over the mists of the ocean
Dawning, the storms to control,
Calvary's lengthening shadow
Ends the long night of my soul.
Dark are the mists that engulf me,
Black is my soul's shroud of sin
But, like the glory of morning,
Christ will give glory within.

Discipline

Do not be irritated by the rod of discipline
For that which seems to bind without
gives liberty within!
As pruning brings the tree to fruit and
gives a plant full flower;
As dams and dynamos combine to
give the river power;
So discipline of strength and will makes
mankind truly free,
Enabling each to realize the best that
he may be.

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SERMON STARTER

Reasons for Spiritual Decadence

BRUCE MARSHALL, in his no less discerning than entertaining biographical novel, *The World, the Flesh and Father Smith*, (The World Publishing Company, Cleveland), gives us a synopsis of a real or imaginary sermon as delivered by one of his characters, "Father Scott." The outline is perfect and the thought penetrating. After describing many of the maladies suffered by the Western world, and putting his emphasis where Jesus would have put it, the preacher enumerated four reasons for our spiritual decadence. The outline follows:

"Firstly, there was the almost universal agnosticism which came, not from the intellect, but from the heart, which was glad to be able to disbelieve

because sin now appeared to be without consequences.

"Secondly, there was the theory that the sole purpose of education was to teach men to earn their livings, whereas its real purpose was to teach them to love God and humanity, both of whom manifested themselves more clearly outside laboratories and counting-houses than inside them.

"Thirdly, there was the general decline in honesty and high purposefulness, and, as a result of the literature of disillusion, the conviction that nobody else practiced honesty and high purposefulness either. For we were all, in the dreadful phrase of the American cinema, wise guys these days and no longer believed that anybody in the whole world acted from disinterested motives, but that everybody had an axe to grind. The test of any project was

now purely practical: whether it would work; business was business, so the City men said, which was another way of saying that they could swindle in the name of commerce. Money was as money did, they cried, calling up from the grave the ghost of Adam Smith, and political economy was a normative science, they said, which aimed at showing how men tended to behave in certain circumstances and not how they ought to behave. Well, the Church of God was not a normative Church, but a thundering, teaching, shouting, preaching Church, crying out to men what they must do if they were to be saved, and he as a priest of the Church had no hesitation in saying that the political economists were talking through their hats and that money was not as money did, but rather the measure of a man's inability to obey Almighty God and love his neighbor as himself.

"Fourthly and finally, there was the myth of progress which assumed that men went on becoming automatically and inevitably more and more civilized and that the habits of tomorrow would be as superior as those of today were to those of yesterday. This, too, was a grave error. Moving forward in time

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did not necessarily mean moving forward in ethics. The citizen of London today was not, because he read the *News of the World* on Sunday afternoons, superior to the fourth-century-before-Christ of Athens who went to see a performance of Aeschylus' *Agamemnon*. The young lady who was popular with the men at dances because she had no body odor was not an improvement on Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, who must have smelt quite a lot after succoring her lepers, unless, which was unlikely, the young lady happened to think a better kind of thought than Saint Elizabeth of Hungary. For true progress was moral rather than mechanical: if there were to be more switches, more buttons, more batteries, there must also be more restraints, more austerities, more unselfishness, more humilities, more prayers, more contemplations on the real end of man."

POETIC WINDOWS

God Made September

If God made little apples —
'Tis so good men do tell —
If God made little apples
And made them red as well:
If he puts mists in the hollows,
Soft winds upon the leas,
Hearts for the south in swallows,
September hues in the trees:
If God could match his roses
Down in the miry lane
With hips and haws for posies
(And rain, and sweet rain)
Oh, if God made September,
Gold of the standing stooks,
Silver dews in the garden,
The high wild flocking rooks —
Aye, if God made September,
Then preach you ne'er so well,
Parson, I'm not believing
That God could make a hell.
—Hamish Maclaren in *September Heresy*.

A Creed

There is a destiny that makes us brothers;

None goes his way alone:
All that we send into the lives of others
Comes back into our own.

I care not what his temples or his creeds,

One thing holds firm and fast —
That into his fateful heap of days and needs

The soul of man is cast.

—Edwin Markham

Creed and Deed

What care I for caste or creed?
It is the deed, it is the deed;
What for class or what for clan?
It is the man, it is the man;
Heirs of love, and joy, and woe,
Who is high, and who is low?
Mountain, valley, sky, and sea,
Are for all humanity.

What care I for robe or stole?
It is the soul, it is the soul;
What for the crown, or what for crest?
It is the heart within the breast;

It is the faith, it is the hope,
It is the struggle up the slope,
It is the brain and eye to see,
One God and one humanity.

—Robert Loveman

SELECTED PROSE

A Tale of Love

In a lonely house sat a youth in the morning of his life. He sat looking now through the window at the starry sky, now at the picture of a woman in his hand, a picture it was the line and color of which were reflected in his face. The picture of a woman's face speaking to him and making his eyes ears; putting in him understanding of the language of the hovering spirits in that room; bringing to birth hearts lighted by love and filled with yearning.

So passed the hour as a minute of pleasant dreaming, or as a year from eternity. Then the youth set the picture before him and took up pen and paper and wrote:

"Beloved of my soul: Great and sublime truths pass not from one human creature to another by way of human speech; rather do they choose silence as a road between souls. I know that the stillness of this night is a messenger between our two spirits bearing messages even more tender than those the breeze writes upon the water's face; reciting the pages of our two hearts to each other. As God willed that our souls be placed in the prison of our bodies, so did love decree that I should be the prisoner of words.

"They say, my darling, that love through worship turns into an all-consuming fire. I have found that the hour of separation does not prevail against the joining of our unearthly selves, as I have known with the first meeting that my spirit was your companion for countless ages, and that your first glance was not, in truth, your first glance.

"Ah, my love, verily the hour that did join our two hearts exiled from another world was one among many that upheld by believing in the eternity of the spirit and its immortality. In such an hour does Nature tear away the veil from the faces of timeless justice that people think injustice.

"Do you recall, beloved, the garden wherein we stood, each regarding the face of a loved one? And your glances told me your love for me sprang not from pity. Those glances taught me to proclaim to myself and to the world that the gift whose source is justice is greater than that which begins in charity. And love that is created by circumstance is like the water of a swamp.

"Before me, my love, is a life I would to be great and beautiful. A life that will be dear to the memory of future

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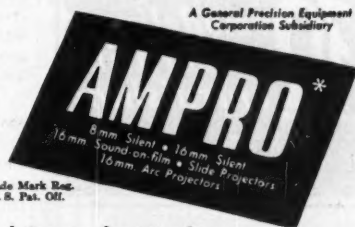


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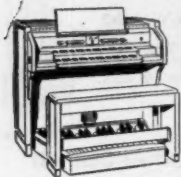
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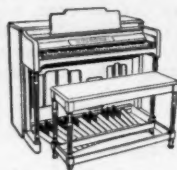
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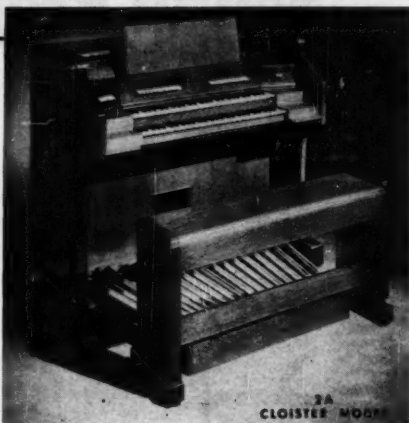
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men and evoke their love and esteem. A life whose beginning was your meeting, of whose immortality I was assured. For I believed that your being was able to bring back the strength that God had taken from me. Yea, even as the sun brings forth fragrant flowers of the field. And so does my love remain to me and to the ages and endure free from selfishness, that it may be spread abroad and be raised above small things in its devotion to you."

The youth rose and walked across the room slowly. Then he looked again from the window and saw the moon was risen, filling the firmament with its gentle radiance. He returned to the letter and wrote:

"Forgive me, beloved, for I have spoken to you as another person, yet you are my half that I lost when we emerged from the hand of God on the same moment. Forgive me."—Kahlil Gibran in *A Tear and A Smile*.

The Young Mother

This afternoon of the sunniest season of the year, is ready to burst like a ripe orange. The garden in the fullness of its vigor, the light, life, are slowly passing through the period of the perfection of their being. It is as though all things from the beginning had been engaged only in bringing to maturity this splendor of an instant. Happiness is visible like the sun.

The young mother, in the cheeks of the little child she is holding, breathes

in her own purest substance. She presses him to her so that he shall remain always herself. She embraces the being she has made. She forgets and rejoices at having given herself, since she has retrieved and found herself again in the tender contact of the intoxicating freshness of his flesh. And vainly those beautiful hands squeeze the fruit she has formed, she feels herself pure, through and through, and like a virgin fulfilled. Her heedless eyes caress the leaves, the flowers, and all the splendor of the world. She is like a Philosopher and a Sage who has found his idea and who has constructed what he required. She is not sure whether the center of the universe is in her heart or in this little heart that is beating in her arms and that, in its turn, brings all things to life.—From *The Selected Writings of Paul Valery*.

There Is No Death

The late Gordon Johnstone told how he happened to write the words for Geoffrey O'Hara's famous song, "There Is No Death," with its haunting recurring phrase, "I tell you they have not died."

In 1919, Johnstone was talking with a Canadian colonel whose command had been wiped out in several bloody engagements. At first the colonel felt a complete despair, but when he made his way through the trenches he began to feel an acute sense of the presence of these departed men. His despair changed to unshakable faith. He could almost see their faces, feel the touch of their hands! He seemed to be enveloped by their presence! And this hard-bitten colonel said to Johnstone, "I tell you they are with us still! I tell you they have not died." And it was this incident that inspired the song.—From *The Art of Real Happiness*, by Peale and Blanton.

Death of a Friend

I was not aware of the moment when I first crossed the threshold of this life.

What was the power that made me open out into this vast mystery like a bud in the forest at midnight?

When in the morning I looked upon the light I felt in a moment that I was no stranger in this world, that the inscrutable without name and form had taken me in its arms in the form of my own mother.

Even so, in death the same unknown will appear as ever known to me. And because I love this life, I know I shall love death as well.

The child cries out when from the right breast the mother takes it away, in the very next moment to find in the left one its consolation.—Rabindranath Tagore in *Gitanjali*; Macmillan, Ltd., London.

BOOKISH BREVITIES

All the marks of his more mature greatness—the indefinable greatness of the spiritual seer and poet—are to be found in *A Tear and A Smile*, by Kahlil Gibran. This volume represents translations of nearly sixty essays and prose poems which were written during Gibran's earlier days in Lebanon and Paris. It is dedicated to a beloved friend ("M.E.H.")—"that noble spirit who loves with the breeze and walks with the tempests." The imagery is reminiscent of the Old Testament, particularly the Psalms and the Song of Songs, and the ancient homeland in the Near East suggest the author's metaphors. Though less directly homiletical than his later works, *A Tear and A Smile* is a living treasury of spiritual, poetic and ethical insights (Alfred A. Knopf; \$3.) * * * *The Art of Real Happiness* by Norman Vincent Peale and Smiley Blanton represents, in simple and persuasive fashion, the practical application of religion and psychiatry to the problems of human life. Out of a long and vast experience in personal counseling this distinguished clergyman and equally distinguished psychiatrist unite in giving us many clues toward the realization of a happy and creative scheme of life (Prentice-Hall; \$2.75) * * * A group of eighteen scholars have united in a work of love in giving us, through translations, an adequate introduction to one of the great creative minds of modern culture—the mind of the French poet-philosopher, Paul Valery. The volume is entitled *Selected Writings of Paul Valery*. This is not a book for the lover of the superficial; it is a book for the lover of the profound and the constructively critical. Valery was a master of style, a man of letters, but his style was always subordinate to his through—its servant, never its master. For the man who will take time and care the reading of this book will be permanently rewarding (New Directions; \$3.50) * * * Revealing his characteristic abilities as a biographer, Richard Aldington gives us something of uncommon worth in *D. H. Lawrence: Portrait of a Genius But* * * *. The time was ripe for this biography. Violent controversies concerning Lawrence were waged during his lifetime and the controversies did not stop with his death. The best things written about this strange, exotic but indisputably great man were written by men and women (mostly women) who were too deeply and personally involved in Lawrence's life to write with anything like detachment. With a detachment which other biographers lacked Aldington gives a balanced estimate of his subject. Aldington knew Law-

rence well, but he knew him as a friend, not as a disciple. This fact has made it all the easier for the biographer to give us a portrait of a highly symptomatic and significant figure in English letters. Arrogant and humble, needlessly cruel and unbelievably kind, in every way unorthodox and yet replete with spiritual insights, Lawrence was, even to his intimate friends, an enigma. Aldington has helped mightily toward explaining Lawrence. I say this in spite of the fact that, at times, the biographer's apologies are really a disservice to his subject. Enough it is to say that the genius of D. H. Lawrence represents more than the genius of his poetry, essays and strange experiments in living—it represents the very

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"Perhaps when in the throes of a headache or when your ulcers are churning up, someone asks you how you are feel-

ing. Maybe you could say, 'My head is bursting'; or 'My ulcers are working overtime, but personally I feel fine.' By 'personally' you mean some core, some essence or soul that could stay intact and look at this pain or sickness as something apart from the rest of you. Or maybe you have had a hang-over and said, 'My stomach is full of tropical fish, my mouth tastes as if I've been drinking lye and my skull feels like the head hunters were at it; but personally I think I'll live.' The core is there, all right.

When, through alcohol, that core leaves you, and with it, your job, your

money and your friends, and you don't know how to get the real 'you' back except for a little while with more alcohol, and when even that stops working the miracle for you—then, brother, you are sick. I know. And you get fed up with the smug people who say, 'Why don't you be like me?' when they don't even know you. And you may try more alcohol and it may work—but only for a little while. I've read stories about fellows like me and they were good, but they didn't give any answers. I read and listened to many divergent and confusing opinions about alcoholics, but they didn't seem to have any bearing on me. Finally I met some people who understood me, and—well, I am not drinking today. That was four years ago and every day has been like that, and in some way each day seems better." So writes the author of one of the most revealing stories concerning alcoholics I have ever read. And, by the same token, it is a magnificent tribute to the work of Alcoholics Anonymous. The book is entitled, *Easy Does It: The Story of Mac*, by Hugh Reilly. This is a book to read, think and preach about. And it is an invaluable document for the pastor who of necessity must deal with alcoholics (P. J. Kenedy and Sons) * * * *Diary of a Dean*, by William Ralph Inge, covers the years during which Dr. Inge was Dean of St. Paul's, London, and represents something like—but in its own unique way—the unexpurgated Confessions of a modern St. Augustine. If I were asked to name, from among living preachers of English-speaking Protestantism, who is the most profound scholar, I think I would say that grand old man of Brightwell Manor in Oxfordshire: William Ralph Inge. America has no one like him, if, indeed, we have ever had one like him. As Dean of St. Paul's, Inge will be remembered as not least in that great succession of deans of genius: Colet, Donne, Milman, and Church. Together with his good friend, Bernard Shaw, Dr. Inge represents one of the last of the great Victorians. An individualist of the first water, Inge has been called, cold, gloomy, austere, pessimistic—all of which characterizations are but relatively true. If he has been "gloomy" he has been so only in the sense that he never succumbed to the popular fallacy of believing in the dogma of inevitable progress. If he has been aristocratic and austere he has been so only in the sense that he has never burned incense to King Demos, found undue pleasure in personal popularity, nor allowed anyone be he prince or bishop, to do his thinking or to run his business. It may be true, however,

that Dean Inge has lacked somewhat of "the common touch"; that he was, during his active career, more easily at home with lords and ladies than with office workers or mill hands. And I have the suspicion that he knew less than he might have known of non-conformist clergymen, albeit, among his most intimate friends was, and is, my beloved teacher, Lawrence P. Jacks. And I cannot forget his kindly, even enthusiastic, interest and cooperation when, in my early twenties, I was engaged in editing my first book. Across the years he has been a major influence both in my thinking and preaching. But now for something from the book of which Bernard Shaw says: "You must read it!" *Diary of a Dean* represents the distilled wisdom of one of the greatest intellects of modern times, and it reveals on every page the genius of a man who is the master of literary expression. The sweep of the book is too vast, and the subjects dealt with are too various, for anything like a fair review. And because this is so, I shall be content with offering my readers a few of the multitudinous samples of the Dean's penetrating and provocative entries: "The ambitious man makes up his mind early what he is going to be, and acts the part carefully. We live up or down to our own hypocrisies. By the time our successful man is a bishop, he is without effort dignified, fatherly and cautious: by the time he is a judge, he looks as wise as a stuffed owl." * * * "About musical recitals in St. Paul's: 'I can and do pray when I enter into my chamber and shut the door; but in the midst of howling and caterwauling I cannot. If I believed that I shall listen through all eternity to the seraphim blowing their loud uplifted trumpets, it would almost deter me from the practice of virtue. For ten minutes today the choir repeated the words 'I wrestle and pray'! Are we quite sure that the Deity enjoys being serenaded? Such were the groans of a much suffering unmusical man." Concerning his appointment as Dean of St. Paul's: "My mother never really forgave me for not being an Anglo-Catholic. When a friend wrote to congratulate her on my appointment, he was startled to find that my promotion had given her no pleasure. It was bad enough to be a 'Low Churchman'; but a 'Broad Churchman' was damned below Judas. In the last years of her life she was able to feel rather differently towards me." Concerning a meeting of the Religious Thought Society: "The room was full of Roman Catholics. The expression on their faces is unmistakable—absolute peace of mind, combined with nar-

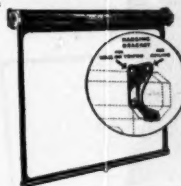
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row bigotry. It is the most potent system of mind-cure, but a heavy price has to be paid. Still, in a sense, they do 'deliver the goods.' December 17, 1917: "The newspapers are attacking me more furiously than ever. I have a swarm of abusive letters. One good lady says: 'I am praying for your death; I have been very successful in two other cases.'" June 20: "I spoke, not well, on 'Animal Welfare,' the Duchess of Hamilton in the Chair. An audience of forbidding looking cranks." December 24, 1929: "My pocket has been picked in a tube lift, and I bought

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a new watch. The shopman said, 'That is much like what happened to the late Sir John Bennett. He was



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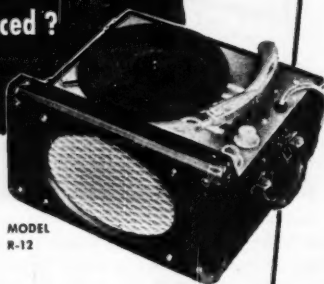
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dining at the Mansion House, where he sat between the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Bishop of London. His gold watch was taken." April 22, 1931: "I gave two addresses to the clergy of Chichester diocese on the Christian experience of God. About sixty were present; I thought they looked very intelligent." September 30: "I read the paper at the Church Congress at Southampton. The audience at these meetings is rather depressing—men who look as if they were descended from a long line of maiden aunts." Some of the wittiest entries to be found in *Diary of a Dean* are those which cover his visit to America in 1925. He came here, it will be remembered, to deliver the Yale Lectures on Preaching—an assignment he didn't take very seriously. Few celebrities have ever received a finer welcome. It was estimated that he was photographed more than twenty thousand times. When asked about prohibition which was then in effect, he answered: "I am quite willing to stick it for three weeks, but, since you ask me, I think cold water, with which the Psalmist says wild asses quench their thirst, is a poor beverage to offer to a human being." If most of these quotations seem to be on the side of wit, I would assure my readers that this diary is not a collection of witticisms. Indeed it is, for the most part, very serious and deals with the deep things with which the minister of Christ must live and feel at home. The volume concludes with two magnificent lectures—"The Idea of Progress" and "The Victorian Age" (Macmillan; \$3.50). * * *

* * * A new book about which I am particularly enthusiastic is *Humanity and Happiness*, by the gifted Norwegian, Georg Brochmann. Recent years have brought forth a rather vast body of literature dealing with happiness—much of it trite, trivial and tiresome—and, by implication, turning religion into magic and God into a kind of celestial Santa Claus. Brochmann, on the contrary, is learned, urbane, and helpfully provocative. In his foreword Lewis Mumford says: "He who assimilates it will be enriched by the best experience of our generation." I do not think that Mumford overstates the case. What makes this book very outstanding, if not unique, is that the author helps us to make their happy discovery without first suffering all the mistakes of the children in Maeterlinck's *The Blue Bird*. He reveals how deep and abiding happiness is determined by capacity quite as much as by experience, and that ever so much depends upon our direction of instinctual energy toward a high and dominant

Spiritual Appeals for Preaching

III Acquisitive Appeals

by John Edward Lantz

Readers who wish the full content of this series should turn back to the June 1950 issue for the discussion of The Nature of Appeals; to the July-Directory issue for the presentation of Security Appeals and look forward to the October issue for the study of Social and Ethical Appeals.

ACQUISITIVE appeals are those which induce us to personal attainments. They pull us in the direction of self-realization. They are personal in nature, and hence may result in egotism and selfishness when thwarted or distorted. Nevertheless they are God-given and, when properly directed in Christian channels, are wholesome.

In secular living acquisitive appeals manifest themselves in a desire for display and self-exhibitionism, for luxurious living, for economic and political power. In Christian living they seek expression in the abundant life, in heaven, in peace, and in power. These are deep desires Christian people search for and the wise pastor will help his parishioners find them. Jesus and his apostles used them extensively and considered them not only legitimate but wholesome.

VII. Abundant Life

... I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.—John 10:10

Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill.—Matthew 5:17

Abundant life is a goal of every single human being, in spite of the fact that every person has his own conception of what constitutes that abundant living. In the Christian sense, it is certainly not a luxurious life free from

work and sacrifice. It involves both work and sacrifice as well as the deep joy which comes to daily living through these two channels. It includes also Christian fellowship, right relations with one's companions, self-fulfillment of one's potential personality, and the realization of one's ambitions of life, plus inner joy, peace and power.

This appeal is very extensive in as much as it includes everything which has to do directly with an individual's contentment and happiness. It includes self-realization which psychologists claim is one of the strongest, if not the strongest, drive in human life. Abundant living is to the Christian what happiness and felicity are to the non-Christian, which Aristotle claimed to be the goal of all living.*

The appeal to abundant life is an acquisitive appeal, in as much as each person must attain it largely for himself by establishing and fulfilling his life's goals.

VIII. Heaven

But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal.—Matthew 6:20

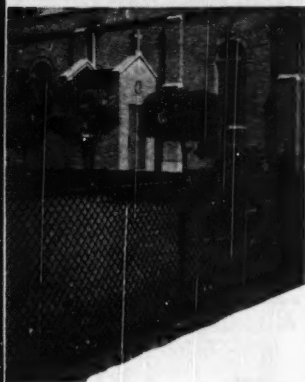
Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have (Turn to Next Page)

*"Aristotle's Poetics," Everyman's Library—901, p. 84.

ideal. To this end he borrows his argument and illustrations from the whole history of the race, including its best literature. Easily at home in the interrelated fields of psychology and psychiatry, and reverent toward the life of man and the rule of God, Brochmann will make every intelligent reader a grateful debtor. His treatment (for example) of alcohol and sex in our modern world is at once the sanest, the fairest and the most persuasive I have come across. I prescribe Georg Brochmann's book with enthusiasm (The Viking Press: \$3). * * * With all

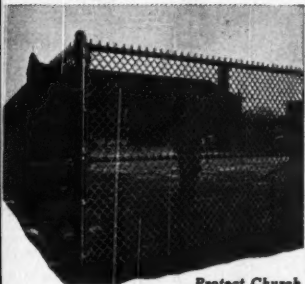
his native moral indignation and telling literary power, John Franklin Bair has given us a small book of dramatic and forthright strength entitled *Frank Smith Has a Vision of Hell*. It is an eloquent indictment, written in acid prose and acrid poetry, of the manufacture and consumption of alcoholic beverages in all their forms. The author writes with great conviction. For all who believe that legal prohibition is the best solution to the problem of alcoholism this will be a good book for their armory (Central Publishing House: \$75).

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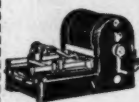
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Spiritual Appeals for Preaching

(From Page 47)

treasure in heaven: and come and follow me.—Matthew 19:21

The appeal of going to heaven is slightly different from that of inheriting eternal life. Heaven includes not only eternal life, but the blessed joy of being with God and of enjoying all the benefits he has prepared for those who love him. Heaven anticipates the fulfillment of many unrealized desires of this earthly life. For those who possess little or no gold on earth, they shall have abundance in heaven—even the very streets shall be paved with gold! Those who are lonely here shall enjoy fellowship there.

The hope of heaven carries with it the hope of fulfilling the unrealized desires of this earthly life. But deeper than that, it is a place of retribution, a place and time when the wrongs of this life shall be rectified, and when the just shall receive justice and the loving shall be loved. The appeal to heaven is not one of escape, but rather one which capitalizes upon the eternal hope within the breast of man, and one which constantly sustains life by providing true perspective.

George Whitefield is the classical example of a famous preacher who used the appeal to heaven constantly in his preaching. "In a career of thirty-four years this man traveled 40,000 miles and preached 18,000 sermons. For him, on occasion, as many as 25,000 auditors stood in the open air. He had a voice so powerful that his preaching could be heard a mile away and so melodious that Garrick is reported to have said, 'I would give a hundred guineas if I could say "O" like Mr. Whitefield.'

"How did this Commoner use his great power? He revealed to his hungry listeners a Promised Land wherein all inequalities in this life would be compensated. His message had a theological basis. His three doctrines were Original Sin, Justification by Faith, and Election. Original Sin meant that, through the indiscretion of Adam and Eve, man's nature was essentially depraved. 'Remember, I beseech you to remember,' he said, 'that you are fallen creatures, that you are by nature lost and estranged from God.' If this was bad news to the humble it was equally disconcerting to the proud, and thus it could be seen that all men were equal in the sight of God. If all men were equally vicious, they must all find relief in the same remedy: Justification by Faith leading to conversion. Thus, at one stroke, the humble man found himself on terms of equality with any on this earth, whereas in heaven he

would be especially blessed.

"... To the average man who thinks he makes choices in everyday life, this sounds very much like offering him a reward if he will make a decision. In any case to the poor of this world, Whitefield offered the riches of the hereafter. This was a message from which the established order had nothing to fear."

In this century of turmoil and tribulation when we are realizing anew how frightfully sinful our world is, there is a place for preaching which extols the glory of heaven as a just reward for bearing injustice and persecution on earth. This need not be an escape device at all, nor a slackening of responsible Christian work on earth. It is rather a part of our Christian gospel.

IX. Peace

Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.—John 14:27

Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.—Philippians 4:9

Peace is more than the cessation of desire; it is the fulfillment of desire. It is a state of mind and spirit freed of conflicting desires and other disquieting influences. Peace is a state of mental and emotional harmony with one's self in the midst of friendly relations with one's companions. It is achieved by surrendering one's heart, mind and will to God.

In the spiritual sense peace and joy have practically the same meaning. When St. Paul wrote to the Philippians that his joy was full, he was thinking of a positive peace, the kind we have in mind here. A similar connotation is carried by the word "rest." "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."—Matthew 11:28. St. Augustine had the same quality of life in mind—a peaceful tranquility—when he said, "Thou movest us to delight in praising thee; for thou hast formed us for thyself, and our hearts are restless till they find rest in thee."

Peace is attained partially by striving for it and partially by surrendering to it. It is difficult to attain, but the speaker who uses it as an appeal is wielding a mighty weapon. Father Divine, the Negro preacher of New York City, won a huge following and wielded a tremendous influence over the lives of his disciples by appealing to peace.

¹"Quarterly Journal of Speech," February, 1943. "George Whitefield: God's Commoner," by C. Harold King, pp. 32 to 36.

²"The Confessions of St. Augustine," Book First, Chapter I.

Peace is an acquisitive appeal. It is a state of mind and heart which must be acquired partially through individual initiative and partially through individual surrender. Certainly, Christian peace is not complete resignation and total cessation of desire. It is a positive quality and one which millions of sincere people are searching for today.

X. Power

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you.—Acts 1:8

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.—Romans 1:16


Power in the sense used here means Christian influence. In referring to power as an appeal we do not mean the direct power of God in human life, but rather the power of suggestion whereby one person attempts to influence the belief and conduct of another. As such it is devoid of the connotations which adhere to "power politics."

In itself power is a force and can be employed for good or evil. Christian power is exerted when a person follows the injunction of Jesus to "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."—Matthew 5:16. Christian power is not a force to compel but rather one to impel. It is not the right to make another person's decisions for him, but only the right to persuade him to decide a certain way himself. It is not the power of appointment against the appointee's will; it is not the right to hire and fire against the employee's will; neither does it imply the right to take undue advantage of another person in any way whatsoever. It is not even benevolent dictatorship.

Christian power is rather the right to exert one's wholesome influence on the lives of other people, but it also assumes the right of these people to refuse such wholesome influence if they decide to do so. This must be true in a society that is free. An author writes a book for example, in order to extend his knowledge and convictions to others and thereby affect their living, yet each person can decide for himself to read the book or not to read it, and if he reads it to accept or reject its interpretations.

Exerting Christian influence is ethical and desirable as disciples of Christ. Jesus said, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."—Matthew 28:19

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land, appealed to power in his sermon entitled "Absolution." For the text he used Luke 5:21—"And the scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, who is this which speaketh blasphemies? Who can forgive sins, but God alone?" Here is the concluding paragraph of his sermon:

... I have been striving to show that absolution is not a church figment, invented by priestcraft, but a living, blessed, human power. It is a power delegated to you and to me, and just so far as we exercise it lovingly and wisely, in our lives, and with our lips, we help men away from sin: just so far as we do not exercise it, or exercise it falsely, we drive men to Rome. For if the heart cannot have a truth it will take a counterfeit of truth. By every magnanimous act, by every free forgiveness with which a pure man forgives, or pleads for mercy, or assures the penitent, he proclaims this truth, that "the Son of Man hath power on earth to forgive sins"—he exhibits the priestly power of humanity—he does absolve; let theology say what it will of absolution, he gives peace to the conscience—he is a type and assurance of what God is—he breaks the chains and lets the captive go free.

Peter, in his sermon at Pentecost, appealed to power. Francis Peabody appealed to this same motive in his sermon, "The Power of an Endless Life." An appeal to power is commonly used and rightly so, for every living person desires power of one kind or another, and the speaker in the church who can appeal to a Christian use of power will surely help to usher in the Kingdom of God on earth.

"Complete Sermons," by the late Rev. Frederick W. Robertson. New York: Harper & Brothers, publishers, 1871, p. 486.

FIGHT TO HOLD LOCAL CHURCH PROPERTY

Portsmouth, New Hampshire—Trustees of the New Hampshire Methodist Conference have begun court action here to prevent the Greenland, New Hampshire Methodist Church and its trustees from assuming ownership of the congregation's property and funds.

The Greenland group, which has been a federated church belonging to the Methodist Conference for some years, has decided to adopt Congregationalism and is claiming money and property accumulated locally as a Methodist society.

According to the Greenland church's attorney, the local group is "morally entitled" to the funds which, he said, amount to about \$20,000.

Spokesmen for the Methodist Conference said that, under the denomination's organization, local church properties and funds officially belong to the Conference to assure their use for Methodist purposes in case of a congregation's secession.—RNS

- THE CHURCH LAWYER -

Trustees' Power to Sell Property

by Arthur L. H. Street

DO the trustees or directors of a Baptist church or other independent church under congregational control have a right to sell or mortgage without authorization by the members?

The Montana Supreme Court lately answered this question "no" in a suit brought by two members of a congregation on behalf of the congregation as well as themselves to set aside a deed executed by members who purported to act as trustees. (Smith v. St. John Baptist Church of Bozeman, 211 Pac. 2d 975.)

Defendant church was incorporated in 1920, under articles that specified that its affairs should be managed by three trustees elected by the members. There were no by-laws.

After the church ceased to function in 1929, one of the three trustees died and another, the minister, moved away. The surviving trustee leased the property and applied the proceeds to the payment of taxes, repairs, etc., with the knowledge of the other members. Under legal advice, she appointed two sisters as co-trustees, and they signed a deed to the property as such and on behalf of the corporation. The other members of the church did not know that a sale was contemplated until after it had been made.

The trial court at Bozeman ordered the plaintiff's suit dismissed but the Supreme Court set the order aside and decided that the deed was void, ruling:

"It was not necessary to determine whether the surviving trustee's appointment of her sisters as co-trustees was valid. Even if it was, the trustees had no right to sell the property without authorization by the membership. The court cited legal authority, including decisions of the highest courts of Nebraska and Alabama, as supporting the proposition that 'when a church, strictly congregational or independent in its organization, is governed solely within itself, either by a majority of its membership or by such other local

organism as it may have instituted for the purpose of ecclesiastical government, and holds property either by way of purchase or donation, with no other specific trust attached to it than that it is for the use of the church, the numerical majority of the membership of the church may ordinarily control the right to the use and title of such property."

The Montana statutes provide that religious corporations "may mortgage or sell . . . property held by them in such way and through such officers as may be authorized by their constitution, by-laws or resolutions." But the court declared:

"Here there was no constitution or by-laws . . . and hence if the trustees may sell the property of a church . . . there must have been a resolution adopted by the members authorizing them so to do. There was no such resolution. The membership . . . was in no way notified of the intention to sell and was not given an opportunity to express itself on this question.

"The authority conferred by the articles of incorporation to manage the affairs of the church did not contemplate a sale of the building acquired for religious purposes. Such sale was not within the scope of the corporate powers or purposes delegated to the trustees. A deed executed by the trustees without authorization from the members of the church . . . does not pass title."

The purchaser of the property argued that the membership was debarred to question the power of the trustees to sell and give her a deed, because she bought in good faith and paid an adequate price and the members knew that she held a lease granted by the trustees, which deed contained an option on her part to purchase. She invoked the rule applicable to commercial corporations, that when stockholders permit officers to exercise authority they will not be heard to say after-

(Turn to page 54)

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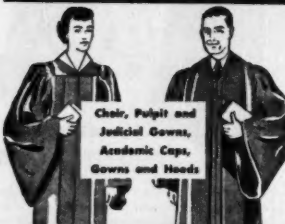
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Harold F. Carr

The Roots of Preaching

Suggestions for Creative Preaching
by *Harold F. Carr**

Philosophy is coming into its own. Personnel men speak about trying to find mechanics and salesmen who have the right philosophy. Social science proudly nears the achieving of a philosophy. College students are not as guilty as their fathers were of making philosophy a study in which one receives a passing grade and something quite distinct from the decisions made in the bull sessions at the fraternity house about life and its meaning. Now the scientists are doing some thinking and are becoming articulate about a philosophy of life. What are the values? How far should science go? The people of our churches are aware of this. The preacher has a duty to relate the statements of scientists to the teaching of the New Testament and the Christian doctrines.

I. REGARDING OUR READING

Two books on philosophy which can help us to preach on science and life are given here, not because they are the only ones or necessarily the best ones. They have helped me and they are the type which we should use. They were written before the great upsurge of thought on this question and thus have a helpfulness which books with the jargon of the new confusion do not have.

*An Introduction to Philosophy** by Edgar Sheffield Brightman has a short chapter on Value of the Philosophical Spirit. "Philosophy is capable of imparting a new meaning to life, of adding worth to every experience. Let us consider some of these her higher functions." In plainer words he adds, "Philosophy is the thinking attitude."

Introduction to Philosophy (Revised Edition)† by G. T. W. Patrick has a different slant. Dr. Brightman is at Boston University School of Theology. Dr. Patrick was at the University of Iowa. In the preface to the first edition Dr. Patrick says: "It is sufficient to say that spiritual values are the significant things, that is, the real things in the universe, and that perhaps they have a determining voice in its ordering." He defines idealism as a term covering all those philosophies which agree in maintaining that spiritual values have a voice in the ordering of the universe. Philosophy, for him, is to seek clear notions.

Our business men want a working philosophy, a policy of action and thought, shot through with the Christian spirit and motivated by a Christian loyalty. Unless we know the issues we cannot impart it.

II. IN A MANNER OF SPEAKING

Saturday Review of Literature of August 6, 1949, was the twenty-fifth anniversary number. There were 186 pages of articles and advertisements. Some publishers, such as the Oxford University Press, showed the classics, favorites or best sellers which they had offered the public in a quarter century.

The lead article was by Henry Seidel Canby and it was a criticism of the modern novels. He told of his monthly chore of discussing with an experienced group the merits of current books among which novels were numerous. He made one statement which should be a watchword for all sermonizers: "And we have all noticed in recent years that our criticism tends to begin and often to end with one unsubtle and blanket statement—'It ought to be cut.'"

A minor responsibility has made me aware of this. I have to write a short article for our church weekly. I find that I can take my first draft of this article and make it stronger by eliminating some words and sentences. If I read this same copy the next day I can usually make it neater and more effective again by cutting some words and phrases.

It isn't as if our hearers could not supply any words or thoughts. They want to do so and should. Thus the cutting may have the effect of making every listener feel that he must get every word and supply some besides. If we mutter all the known adjectives and say every sentence the congregation turns off the eagerness till we get through.

It is true about science and philosophy. We must eliminate some of the minor issues and ask the big questions on which we must be able to hold the

*Henry Holt & Company.
†Houghton, Mifflin Company.

awesome attention of a worshipping congregation.

III. WALKING WITH THE GREAT

In May we mentioned a life of Louis Pasteur. Now there is a new one which deals with Pasteur primarily in the area we are considering this month—science and philosophy. *Louis Pasteur Free Lance of Science** by Rene J. Dubos is worth the price of purchase for the quotations at the beginning of each chapter.

Pasteur did not believe in speaking of pure science and applied science. Science should help the people. It should proceed from that desire. He had great powers of persuasion and conviction. He added them to his ability as a scientist.

The minister may tire in reading some of the chemical chronicles but there are enough deep philosophical observations and experiences sprinkled through these pages to make it worth while to read every page. Besides it is good discipline.

IV. PREACHING WITH URGENCY

An Episcopal bishop was saying that he and his brother ministers were trying to get more "why don't you?" into their sermons.

A man spoke at our Kiwanis Club about help for retarded children. Without any undue sentiment, just simply, he told of his own little girl. Then, as an accountant would, he portrayed the steps of helpfulness provided by the society and the schools, in which his little girl had been helped. It was personal and we felt an urgency no oratory could have produced.

Those who have fears spread them with a speed and drama which only a satanic force could provide. Those who have faith can make testimonies with a power only God can give.

V. A BASIC IDEA

In Pasteur's long and significant career there were many instances in which he and others thought that chance had favored him. At school he met some men who were carrying on experiments and they showed their results to him. Some of these things stayed with Pasteur and were obviously helpful in his great discoveries.

Once he "chanced upon a paper by a great crystallographer" and this too was determining in his success. Modern chemists say that he happened to start experimenting with tartrates and that if he had known what is known now he couldn't have done better.

Still and all chance favors the pre-

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pared mind. He remembered what he heard and saw. He coordinated it. He interpreted it. He was driven by an intense desire to have these findings used for the good of mankind.

Christ appeared to the ones who loved him and were wanting him. Seek and ye shall find. Chance favors the prepared mind. Faith finds the searching and loving soul.

VI. A NEW LIGHT

If we follow the cadence of publishing we usually find that a good book, such as Dubos' biography of Pasteur, will be followed by an article or two in good magazines on much the same subject. If we want to turn newscasters let us look through the magazines of September, the scholarly issues too, and the promised articles of October for articles dealing with the philosophy of scientists. In the small discussion groups on peace issues, armament, cold war and propaganda our people ask whether to consider the issues with fear or with faith.

The new light would be the judgment of the present jitters by the steady philosophy we have adopted and the Christian principles by which we stand.

Trustees Power to Sell Property

(From page 51)

wards that such authority was not granted. But the court answered that circumstances showing that the surviving trustee was authorized to lease the property did not indicate authority to sell.

The court further decided that nine months' delay on the part of the plaintiffs in suing to have the deed set aside did not defeat the suit, the rights of no person having been prejudiced by the delay.

The court said that the case did not present for determination the question whether the purchaser was entitled to reimbursement for improvements she had made on the property before she purported to purchase; intimating that she could bring a suit to determine her rights in that respect.

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A Curse Is Crushing the Earth

Shall Our Churches Add to the Burden

by Elisabeth Logan Davis**

"FLAGS, fifty-nine of them waving in the same breeze, raised to the same height," I exclaimed thrilled by the beauty of the spectacle on that perfect October day as we approached the General Assembly of the United Nations.

"It looks like one world after all," commented my companion with that smug optimism with which we pin our hopes on the United Nations, World Federalists or diplomacy. But we both were to learn through the visit and a series of incidents which occurred during the past year that it is the Christian acting in everyday life who holds the balance of power.

As we took our seats behind the blocked off spaces for the delegates inside the spacious auditorium, my companion's comment seemed to hold true. Significant was the one color map spread behind the rostrum. There is no pink for Russia, nor green for America, neither is there any blue for the oceans to separate continents. Because the entire map is a monochrome, one can scarcely see the narrow strait which comes between Russia and America. Significant was the outward similarity of the peoples of the earth as they took their allotted places. Their uniformity was unmarred except by an occasional turban or a flamboyant sari.

Then with a sharp jerk, I discovered that the unitary aspect stopped with the obvious. When the delegates began to speak we found ourselves in a world divided against itself. The discussion was a good one to enlighten us

on the "curse which is crushing the earth,"† for the subject was human rights and fundamental freedoms as concerned with Bulgaria, Hungary and Romania. As we clamped the earphones tightly to our heads, we were lashed by bitter words, first, of the Polish foreign chief, then the Czechoslovakian, and last as a climax, the Russian Vishinsky.

These important men, representing a large slice of the world, accented their speeches with a note of scorn as they called attention to our Jim Crowism, our prejudiced decisions against the Negro, our discriminatory treatment of minorities in education. "With these flagrant violations of human rights," bellowed Vishinsky, "it is like the pot calling the kettle black." He declared this country had no business launching accusations against Eastern European nations when "real violations of human rights are taking place here."

As we rode home on the train from the three and a half-hour debate in this stormy plenary session, my companion said casually, "Of course, we all know that harping on our racial prejudices is just another subterfuge to avoid the issue of human rights for those communistic dominated countries."

"But that doesn't lessen the pain of even the half truths of their words," I said humbly.

"If they didn't have that to heckle us about, they would find something else," soothed my companion.

"By the way," I said boldly, "I have been thinking a lot about our own community's attitude. After all it is not a time for abstract observation but one for a concrete approach. Maybe

†Isaiah 24:6 (Moffatt).

*Mrs. Engel may be addressed at Walburg, Texas.

**Mrs. Chester M. Davis, whose husband is the minister of the First Presbyterian Church, Rahway, New Jersey.

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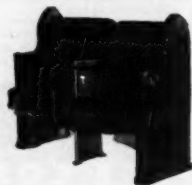
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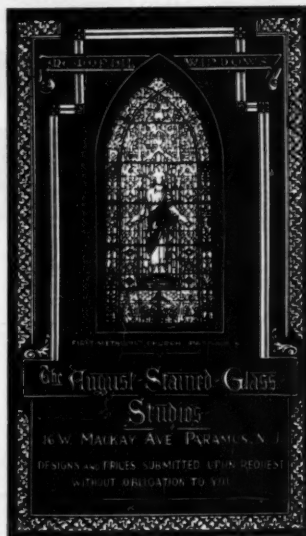


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you as a club woman can tell me why the Woman's Club in our town has never admitted Jews and Negroes. I know that the National and State policy is against such exclusiveness."

"Oh, no, we couldn't for our club is different. There would be too many objections," said my companion. "It is such an intimate group, mostly made up of old friends." Then as an afterthought, "Besides the Hebrew women have their own Hadassah and the Negroes—well, they have their own church meetings."

"But one of the finest musicians in town is Jewish. Think how enriched your club would be with her as a member!" At this the club woman merely shrugged her shoulders. I stealthily looked around, fearful a Russian delegate might be hearing our conversation.

When I mentioned to a social conscious friend my concern over American apathy about our faults in regard to human relations, she rebuked me, "I am on the committee against discrimination, and changes for better integration are quite evident. Managers of industrial plants are admitting Negroes although it took a war to teach us fair employment; clerks from the colored group are appearing in many stores and are well received. Besides our State of New Jersey just this past year passed its own Bill of Civil Liberties. See, we are really making great strides."

"Great strides!" Where had I heard that expression? Then I remembered the Czech foreign chief, Dr. Clementis, in his speech had said, "You say here in America that you have made great strides against discrimination. Back in 1869 you passed your Bill of Rights. But you still have your Jim Crowism if not in laws you have it in practices."

Our critics are right when we consider how few of us are willing to integrate minorities into our groups. I overheard this conversation between two mothers on a hot July day when every child of whatever color wants to swim. "One thing which I don't like about these agitators for equality of races," complained one young mother to another, "Why should my child, if she uses the park pool, have to swim with Negro children?" Equal rights for taxpayers meant nothing to her. The other young mother replied, "Well, I just keep my children out of the pool rather than have them come in contact with colored children." If she believed in the justice of the law she did not believe in carrying it out by integration.

As I walked away from the park my brow was puckered over the complexity of human relations which must be solved by each of us in our own little corner. Otherwise we may expect our enemies to shove their fists, their guns, their swords into the cracks in our masonry.

Even though such violations of our democratic principles lay us open to the scorn of our enemies, certainly Andrei V. Vishinsky, Vladimir Clementis and Jan Drohojowski cannot accuse our churches. But this smug security toppled with an account of an executive meeting of church women who met to consider a questionnaire designed to obtain an index of Christian opinion.

"Would you be willing to admit Negroes to your church?" There was much discussion punctuated by rationalizations. When the vote was taken only one hand was raised for the affirmative. The other leaders felt it would not be expedient, would lead to social complications, and maybe to that dreaded intermarriage.

"Would you be willing to have a Negro as a neighbor?" Again an emphatic "no" from all but one. These women were home owners and the excuse was the oft repeated one, "It would ruin the value of our property; our neighbors would stop speaking to us if we encouraged Negroes to move on our block."

I discovered that the lone voter in the affirmative was my companion to the United Nations just the week before. When I asked what experience had caused her to completely shed her prejudices, she rather sheepishly admitted that the speeches at the General Assembly had made her discard her old garments of outmoded opinions.

She explained, "I finally had to honestly answer these questions: Was I really working against the good will to all men and peace on earth by my old-fashioned bias? Was it safe to continue such practices and give our opponents to democracy and Christianity a leg on which to stand? I came to the conclusion that it is not only right to be for civil rights, but it is also politic."

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By means of announcements, letters and an every member visitation, most churches can have another Easter attendance. Where such enlarged attendances are anticipated, those in charge of the preparation of the communion emblems should govern themselves accordingly. Some congregations will need two communion services on Sunday morning.

The members who are sick in homes and hospitals and the aged and the infirm, should have the communion taken to them. These should be included in all plans for the day in order that they may be a part of the world fellowship of Christians around the Lord's Table.

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History Making Possibilities Now

by *Albert F. McGarr*

YES, there is, in truth, a “Rising Tide” of activity and prayerful concern among the Protestant churches of our country; looking to the achievement of “greater things” in the name of Christ, among the churches that bear his name.

Since my article in the June issue of *Church Management* was prepared, notable developments have occurred, including the Korean situation with its history-making implications for Asia and for the world.

However, since “Man’s Extremities are God’s Opportunities,” the leaders of every Christian church should seek, with faith and faithfulness, to lead their congregations forward to the achievement of all Scriptural objectives.

Five Reasons for Increasing Faith and Faithfulness

At a recent conference of pastors and laymen of five communions, who came together to review their problems and to preview their possibilities, their reactions were both unanimous and hearty as to the following points.

FIRST: as to a deeper concern among the leaders of their respective communions—in the light of “Amsterdam” and other recent church history-making events—as to fostering such Christian unity, in spirit and in action, as would most effectively hasten the fulfillment of our Lord’s prayer: “Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, as in heaven so on earth.”

SECOND: As to an increasing interest in the cause of Christ by individuals and organizations outside official church circles—on the part of editors and educators, publicists and public officials, employers and employees.

THIRD: As to the growing interest of our community organizations and their leaders—the Parent-Teachers Association, the American Legion, service clubs, lodges, etc.—and as to their readiness to give public commendation and definite aid for church plans.

FOURTH: As to the possibilities, for each church and for cooperative local organizations, in and through the program for publicity and emphasis as to Religion in American Life*; the plans for which, for the coming autumn, are

projected on even a broader and more effective scale than in the autumn of 1949. All the pastors—some for the first time—will seek to profit therefrom.

FIFTH: That the developments as to Korea, with widening implications for the world; and the increasing demands upon the resources of our own nation, have aroused many hitherto half-hearted Christians to consider fully the importance of Christian churches, and to respond more quickly and generously to wisely presented challenges as to their aid for democracy and Christ.

An “ABC” for Committees Promoting Church Attendance

A Gallup poll made, some years ago, by a group of churches resulted in an “ABC” summary which we quote. Does your church merit such kindly comments by new members?

“ATTRACTIVENESS.” Frequent mention of “Your attractive grounds . . . well-kept property,” “Beautiful sanctuary,” “Interior arrangements,” “Attractive service of worship . . .”

“BROTHERLINESS.” “We were immediately impressed by the cordial atmosphere radiated by the ushers . . . by the warm friendliness of the people for each other.”

“COMFORTABLE.” Many mentioned their first impressions of the “Comfortable pews,” “Perfect heating and lighting arrangements,” “Easy steps for the older folks,” etc.

“DEMOCRACY.” “No caste spirit here, illustrating the Scriptural ideal: ‘The rich and the poor meet together. The Lord is the maker of them all.’ We like that.”

“EDUCATIONAL PROVISIONS.” “Your concern for the best in educational policies, materials and equipment—simple yet highly satisfactory—would please the ‘Master Teacher.’”

“FRIENDLY RELATIONS.” “As newcomers to the community, we visited some churches where a Welcome sign in front was only ‘front.’ This church measures up splendidly.”

“GENUINENESS.” “In these days of artificial religion and superficial professions, the evident genuine sincerity of pastor and people explain our coming to this church.”

“HOME-UNANIMOUS.” “The fifth

*For information on “Religion in American Life” write to the organization at 214 East 21st Street, New York 16, New York.

church visited when we moved here, we took stock at the Sunday dinner hour, as before. Six votes—young and old—unanimous—this is IT."

"INTELLIGENT PLANNING." "With our early training in the Bible and in active Christian service, we were cautious. We are happy with the intelligent plans and progress here."

"JOYOUS RELIGION." "Some churches radiate an uncertain atmosphere; doubt and defeatism. We rejoice because here pastor and people alike radiate courage and confidence."

"KINGDOM OUTLOOK." "We were eager to find a church that has a world outlook. We are so happy that this church lives, not for itself alone."

"LOYALTY TO CHRIST." "We tried one church for a time, where formalism prevailed. Here, we found a primary emphasis on the words of Christ; and on obedience to his commands."

"MEN WORKING." "There is a saying that 'Men like to go where other men go.' My husband was never active before; but here, he is already active and enthused by the 'Men's Work.'"

"NEW IDEAS." "New occasions teach new duties." "As Jesus praised the scribe who brought forth from his treasures things new and old, He must approve that attitude here."

"OPEN MINDS." "As Peter and Paul responded to the unusual appeals from Cornelius and from Macedonia, so this church honors itself by being open to new methods."

"PRACTICAL WISDOM." "When Jesus fed the Five Thousand, he wisely used all available material resources, and organized the work carefully."

"QUIET POWER." "While we rejoice in splendid sermons and helpful music, we also enjoy the 'Moment for Quiet Power' when the presence of God seems even more real."

"RIGHTEOUSNESS." "The pastor's call to practice 'The weightier matters of the law . . . justice and mercy' . . . and to take an interest in Christian citizenship and service, pleased us."

"SPIRITUAL VISION." "We have attended churches where efficiency was stressed without spiritual warmth. Here, one is impressed by both the upward look and the outward look."

"TEACHING TRUTH." "The letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life." "Jesus constantly stressed a heavenly way of life, not mere memory work." He would be pleased here."

"UNITY." "Too often, jealousies within a church and between neighbor churches tend to discredit them. You pray and work for unity."

(Turn to page 65)

THE EQUALITY OF QUALITY

In some dark corners of the earth the opinion prevails that quality means luxury and that only the rich can afford the best. When the Presbyterian Ministers' Fund insists on providing only quality insurance it does not have any idea of charging an extra high premium. It deals in quality contracts because its clientele belongs to the quality folks. And equality among the clergy means that because one is a minister he rates as every other minister—a man of quality.

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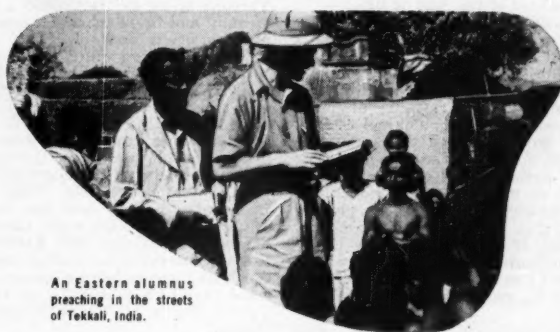
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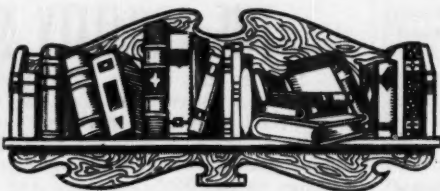
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NEW



BOOKS

The World Aflame

Five Minutes to Twelve by William E. Purcell with illustrations by Arthur Wragg. Morehouse-Gorham Company. 104 pages. \$2.00.

This book comes to us from England where it has challenged many readers. The title very obviously is related to our phrase "it is later than you think." Mr. Purcell believes that "it is later than one thinks." But he does not generalize on the matter. He takes individuals who typify groups and shows how each one is living and acting as though the midnight hour of humanity will soon strike.

Jim typifies selfishness and indifference. He is a graduate of the R.A.F. His philosophy is expressed by the phrase "I couldn't care less." He has been a pawn in the game of kings and has reached a place where he considers life to be a thing of chance.

Steve is a bus driver who gets lost in the London fogs. He is of middle age, has a family with children reaching their maturity. His hair is becoming gray and his shoulders are stooped. He is afraid of the fogs of life.

Thompson is a man who has an answer for every occasion but it is a defeatist answer. Lorna is a girl who wants to marry romance. She is quite conscious of the real duties of life. The increasing divorce ratio is discussed very personally under "unreal estate."

And so on through the book. The religious interest is tied to each chapter as the author points out the spiritual nature of most of our personal and social problems. The author's philosophy is that the world is draining the resources of character built by Christian civilization and that we are near the end of an era.

Take this paragraph; it gives a summation.

"The machinery of life over wide areas, and notably in Europe, is beginning to creak too obviously to give anyone a confident impression of being able to continue indefinitely as it is. An almanac which an old man like Father Time brings once a year to all houses in our street, prophesies shipwrecks, troubles in Germany, great interest in the Cup Final, and a rise in production—the mixture, in fact, much as before. But this cannot now be taken for granted. It is by no means certain that our old earth, endlessly waltzing around the sun to the music of the spheres, will somehow continue to get along."

The artist, Arthur Wragg, supplements the text with eleven full-page drawings which eloquently portray the spirit of pessimism of the volume.

W. H. L.

The Valley of the Shadow by Hanns Lilje. Muhlenberg Press. 128 pages. \$1.25.

I am glad that this book has been translated from the German and published in our country. It is the story of the imprisonment of the author by the Nazi Germans during World War II. But it is more than a personal narrative. It brings to light the real strength of the resistance movement among the German Christians.

Americans are very familiar with the story of Martin Niemöller. But he was rather a lone wolf. Bishop Lilje, on the other hand, represents the ecumenical minded Germans and typifies those who were opposed to Hitler and the things he stood for. Before the war the author was the secretary of the German Christian Students World Union. He travelled extensively and for a time was an assistant in the Lutheran World Federation. Now he is the Bishop of Hanover of the Evangelical Lutheran Church.

He suffered the inquisitions of the extortion confession and the imprisonments meted out by the Nazi regime. Through it all he maintained a peace of mind and calmness which preserved him physically and spiritually.

But the greatest contribution of this little volume will be the information it brings: the list of names of German intellectuals and churchmen who fought the political evils to the point of imprisonment and death. Read their names carefully as you go through the pages. See how we misjudged the German church as a whole. There were many who did not bow the knee to Hitler. Imagine what might have been accomplished if our own government had worked out some plan of cooperation with these resistance groups which could have been substituted for the unyielded slogan of "unconditional surrender."

W. H. L.

The Meaning of History

Christianity and History by Herbert Butterfield. Charles Scribner's Sons. 146 pages. \$2.75.

This is a most arresting book, certain to cause much comment among all students of Christianity's past. A reviewer in the *London Times* has given it as his judgment that it "must be regarded as the most outstanding pronouncement on the meaning of history made by a professional historian in England since Acton's Inaugural." The author is professor of modern history at the University of Cambridge and a Methodist from Yorkshire. He is already known to fellow students of history through several

previous volumes.

In seven chapters of crisp and sparkling prose which never leave the reader at a loss as to his meaning, Professor Butterfield develops the thesis that those who can find no divine scheme or purpose in history must necessarily become either complacent or self-righteous, that the Hebrew prophets showed profound insight in their denunciation of moral inadequacy, that there is no particular school of historical interpretation which is more than partially satisfying and that when spiritual resources are present, catastrophe can be changed into creative and constructive achievement. Without sarcasm the author pricks many balloons and without any intolerance or annoying sense of superiority he proclaims his own independent point of view. Unhesitatingly he is a Christian, applying to the past and the present the basic doctrines of his faith. Again and again he pays his tribute to the power of the saints, sometimes rather simple and unlettered saints.

It is refreshing and encouraging to study the witness of a man of authority among scholars who gives his wholehearted support to the Christian message.

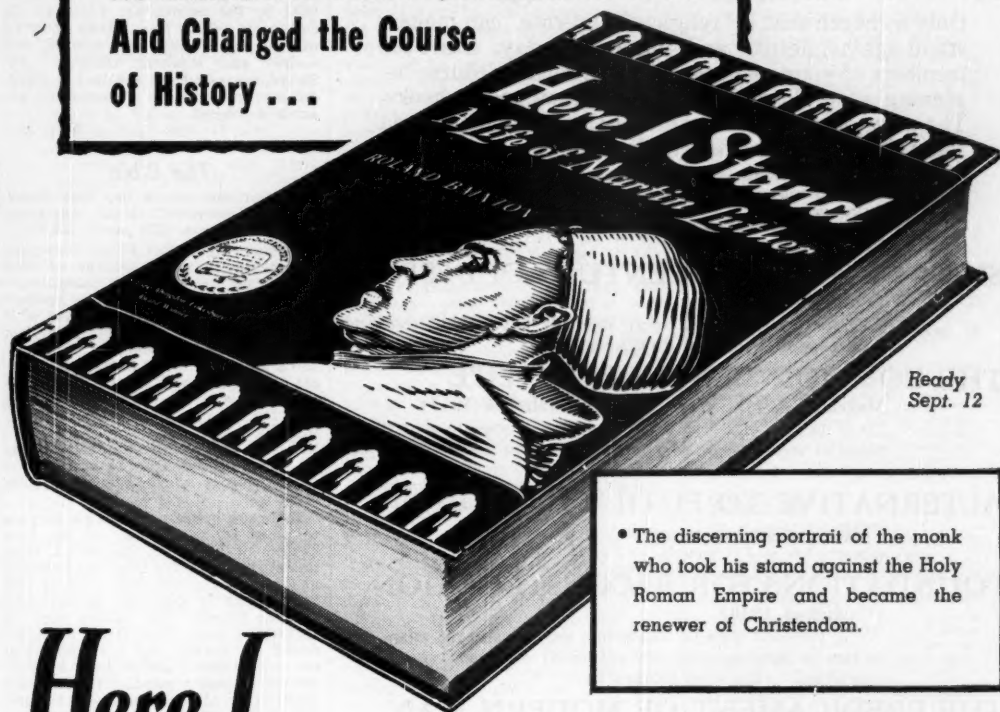
F. F.

Is God in History? by Gerald Heard. Harper & Brothers. 269 pages. \$3.00.

This book is a sequel to the author's *Is God Evident?* in which he drew from the facts of natural history the conclusion that God is a valid reference. In this volume he follows up this inquiry from natural history to human history. The author's assumptions are that if God is in natural history, a fortiori, we should be able to perceive his signs in history. Further, as we now see our history as growing out of the history of life, we should find developed in our story, and brought into focus, the struggle, the significance and the salvation that we see foreshadowed in the whole life process. In brief, this book is an inquiry into human and prehuman history in terms of the Doctrine of Creation, Fall and Redemption.

The author begins by showing how history has meaning. He proceeds to show how the Doctrine of the Fall is not only credible but also necessary. He views the Fall as a triple process which can be fully correlated with a triple recovery. He shows that this process is not only in our western civilization but also in the Indian and Mongolian as well. He illustrates how the story of Hinduism and the religions of the Far East fits into place so that with them and with Christianity we may have an adequate outline of the

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- The discerning portrait of the monk who took his stand against the Holy Roman Empire and became the renewer of Christendom.

Here I Stand

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This authoritative, dramatic biography interprets with sound scholarship and keen insight the spirit and message of Martin Luther: how he shattered the structure of the medieval Church—and paved the way for religious freedom; how he brought the Bible to the common man—and restored the vitality of Christianity; how he stood before the Diet of Worms—and changed the course of history.

HERE I STAND interprets Martin Luther's experiences, his

work, his writings, and his lasting contributions. It re-creates the sixteenth century—shows Luther's place within it and his influence upon it, and brings to life the message of Martin Luther for us today.

The many illustrations—by Holbein, Cranach, Durer, et. al.—and satirical cartoons of Luther's turbulent time help make *HERE I STAND* an absorbing, lively interpretation of his life, work, and words.

HERE I STAND is a significant contribution to Protestantism—a study of the life and the faith of its great leader—a picture of the man whom Dr. Bainton describes: "He was the father of a household, the mold of the German people, a new David playing on his harp, an emancipator of certain fetters of the spirit, the divider of the Church, and at the same time the renewer of Christendom."

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divine process as it has so far directed history.

The book contains three appendices and an excellent index. The references used by the author are found at the conclusion of the book. They show an extreme familiarity with natural, historical and mystical theology. Dr. Heard has given a scientific yet spiritual interpretation to an extremely important subject.

W. L. L.

The Bible

An Introduction to the New Testament by Frederick C. Grant. Abingdon-Cokesbury Press. 339 pages. \$3.75.

While being neither a New Testament Commentary nor an Outline of New Testament Theology this latest work from the hand of one of the greatest modern New Testament scholars is in reality something of both. Professor Grant of Union Theological Seminary, using all of the latest findings of Biblical research as well as the perspective and balance of his mature scholarship, here for the first time, sets out a true introduction to the great teachings of the New Testament, their relationship to those of the Old Testament and other sources which helped to form them.

Although it has not been his purpose to plead for a theology of the New Testament it cannot be denied after this study that there is in this basically and exclusively religious book a real faith which is expressed in Christian thought forms. The author goes on further to show how these ideas affected the growth and development of the early church, and at least by indirection at many points he shows the significance of New Testament thought for modern life.

After developing the scope, growth and variety of New Testament thought, Doctor Grant discusses: Revelation and Scripture, The Doctrine of God, Miracles, The Doctrine of Man, The Doctrine of Christ, The Doctrine of Salvation, The Doctrine of the Church, and New Testament Ethics. Here indeed is a concentrated guide for the studious minister or layman which merits careful attention throughout the entire winter season, and a permanent place on the reference shelf.

In these days when the ecumenical spirit is abroad in the lands, Grant's analysis of the nature of the church and its ministry will be a boon to many, including the committee charged with the responsibility of bringing a formal statement before the next World Council assembly.

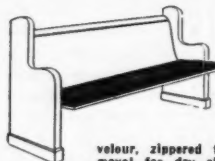
Strikingly clear is his "importance of the family" emphasis in section V of Chapter XII on the Central Concept in New Testament Ethics. "Ethics were pedestrian; here was something which set men on fire."

R. W. A.

Parables of Crisis by Edwin McNeill Poteat. Harper & Brothers. 255 pages. \$2.75.

As Jesus traveled on his last journey to Jerusalem, the seeds of conflict between his Gospel emphasis and the status quo of current thinking and conduct became more and more evident. This conflict was often as marked between him and his friends as between

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him and his enemies. Because he was so conscious of these areas of tension, he sought to leave with his followers a set of principles that would help resolve them. Most effective in this direction were the many parables which dramatized in an unforgettable manner the principles Jesus desired to teach.

In this book Dr. Potat has dealt with sixteen of these "Parables of Crisis" as recorded in Luke. These problems are as old as time and yet seem ever new as on-going generations are called upon to come to grips with them. Jesus' purpose in the use of parables is interpreted in this wise: "To their distorted perspectives he must bring re-adjustment; to their greed he must offer a corrective lest it destroy them; to their superficial and proud religious rigmarole he must try to bring honesty and practical action; to their adulation of power and their servility to the tyrant-mind he must address the protective wisdom of gentler and more creative moods."

The able scholarship of the author, his profundity of thought, and his creative insights make of this book a valuable contribution to the commentary literature on the parables. It will bear reading and re-reading and should goad many a preacher into a renewed, intensive study of the Christian ethic particularly as revealed in the parables.

Significantly the author makes a good deal of the setting wherein each parable was given—what preceded, the mood and theme of the occasion, and what followed. Of course these are nearly always as important as the parable itself and often add many new factors affecting the interpretation.

The timely nature of several of the chapter titles is striking, e.g. "Small Barn, Big Fool," "Two Men and a Tree," "The Man Who Came to Dinner," "The Big Banquet," "Ends and Means," "The Snob," "The Egomaniac," etc. Finally, the publishers deserve a word of commendation for the splendid craftsmanship exhibited in bringing this book into print.

S. L.

Barnes on the Old Testament edited by Robert Frew. Commentary on Job, Volumes 1 and 2. Baker Book House.

Each volume costs \$3. Others in this set of Barnes' notes on the Old and New Testament cost either \$3 or \$3.50. Written by Albert Barnes for the British public two generations ago, these books have had a sale of more than two million copies in that time. They are written for conservatives but have unusually interesting material for any who wish to study these commentaries.

The reviewer examined particularly the two volumes of Job. Ninety pages of introduction gives the point of view of the commentary, in which he states his belief in the literal history of the book itself. Nevertheless in his interpretation of Biblical thoughts or ideas he has much that is exceedingly interesting. Very small type is used for the analysis at the beginning of each chapter and then the type in the bulk of the volumes is rather small too. Except for that, the format is excellent. There are occasional pen and ink engravings to illustrate Biblical customs of Canaan.

H. W. F.

Notes on the New Testament—Matthew and Mark by Albert Barnes. Baker Book House. 400 pages. \$3.00.

The re-issue in modern format of the *Biblical Notes* by the popular pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia almost a century ago, will be welcomed by conservative scholars and pastors who have increasingly found the original editions unavailable. The entire commentary on the New Testament is now reprinted.

R. W. A.

A Pictorial Gospel compiled by Eliot Hodgkin. The Macmillan Company. 212 pages. \$3.50.

This is "a life of Christ in the works of the old masters and the words of the gospels." It contains 119 black and white reproductions of paintings and drawings—some familiar but a very great many unfamiliar—ranging from anonymous illustrators of medieval manuscripts to Blake and Ford Madox Brown; owned in many cases by galleries, some in libraries, and others from private collections from all over the world.

A page of relevant text from the Gospels, using the words of the Authorized Version faces each picture.

It is well done and a real contribution to artistic art books in the field of religion.

H-L. L. P.

My Sermon Notes on the Lord's Prayer by W. P. Van Wyk. Baker Book House. 115 pages. \$1.50.

This is the ninth volume in the Van Wyk Sermon Library. Part I consists of eight sermons on the Lord's Prayer. These outlines are exegetical and expository and are calculated to enrich the Christian's prayer life. Part II includes outlines and notes on ten devotional themes, including: "The Lord's Supper," "The Keys of the Kingdom," "True Conversion," "Counterfeit Fruits of the Spirit," "The Fruitful Life." Each outline is a model of logical consistency, and can be welcomed by all who desire to be true to the Word of God in preaching and teaching the "unsearchable riches."

D. R. F.

How to Teach the Bible by Joseph M. Gettys. John Knox Press. 163 pages. \$2.00.

Here is a teacher's book for teachers. It deals realistically with the teacher's problems and gives lucid technique, together with concrete illustrations, to show how to put new life into the teaching process. The teacher will find practical answers to some of his or her most urgent questions: What attitude is taken toward the Bible as a source book for teaching? In what sense is Scripture the authority for Christian life and faith? What basic appeals does the Bible make to its readers? What qualities should teachers strive to develop? When does a teacher really teach? What is a lesson plan and how is it made? How are apt questions framed? What makes a good introduction? What are the qualities of an effective illustration?

The book is also planned for leadership training classes in either five or ten study units. Questions at the end of each chapter are pertinent for review or discussion. Clear in expres-

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Foreword by the Archbishop of Canterbury

COMMUNISM AND THE CHURCHES contains basic and indisputable documents and facts, and from these the reader can draw his own conclusions. The countries which are examined are as follows: U.S.S.R., Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Roumania, Yugoslavia. There is a further section on Vatican pronouncements.
Price, \$1.25

WORK IN MODERN SOCIETY

By J. H. OLDHAM

(Published for the Study Department World Council of Churches)

The present paper is the outcome of preliminary discussions in a small group which met in Switzerland under the auspices of the Ecumenical Institute in April, 1949, and was composed of those actively engaged in industry and by sociologists and theologians. In relative Christianity to the secular life, it has considered the nature of modern society, including modern attitudes and incentives to work, the Christian approach to the meaning of work, and the source of a Christian doctrine of work.

Price, \$1.00

LIVING THE CREED

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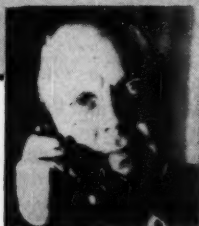
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D. R. F.

Religion and the Individual

The Individual and His Religion by Gordon W. Allport. The Macmillan Company. 147 pages. \$2.50.

Dr. Allport is professor of psychology in the Department of Social Relations at Harvard University. This volume is based upon the author's Lowell Lectures in Boston and his Merrick Lectures at Ohio Wesleyan University. This approach to the study of religion is obviously wholly psychological in method and content. However, it should be said that Dr. Allport's analysis is not "psychology without a soul."

The book contains six brief but thoughtful chapters. He begins with a study of the origins of the religious quest. This quest ends with the assertion that "the roots of religion are so numerous, the weight of their influence in individual lives so varied, and the forms of rational interpretation so endless, that uniformity of product is impossible. In his second chapter on "The Religion of Youth" he maintains that seven out of ten college students today feel that they need a religious orientation in order to achieve a fully mature philosophy of life.

Chapter three outlines what the author calls: "The Religion of Maturity." Here the reader finds not only an interesting analysis of what he holds to be a mature religion but also suggestive thoughts for our own religious development. The fourth chapter should be read by a large portion of our church membership. Here Dr. Allport insists that the crux of mental health is found in the nature of the individual's beliefs. It turns out, he says, that in many respects psychological science and religion, for all their differences in vocabulary, have similar views regarding the origin, nature, and cure of mental diseases. The last two chapters discuss the nature of doubt and the nature of faith.

This volume is a contribution to the study of the psychology of religion. It is keeping alive that great Harvard tradition of the importance of religion in human life. The literary style has all the ease of reading which William James used in making popular this subject three quarters of a century ago.

W. L. L.

Your Life Counts edited by Hoover Rupert. Abingdon-Cokesbury Press. 157 pages. \$1.75.

This is a challenge of the Christian way for young people in today's world as the sub-title plainly implies: "Messages for Youth."

Fourteen Methodist leaders—bishops, secretaries, missionaries and college presidents—unite in contributing a special appeal to the younger generation. All of them are prominent in their denomination, especially such men as E. Stanley Jones, Roy L. Smith and Henry Hitt Crane, to name only three of the fourteen.

In such a symposium there is bound to be a difference of level, but, in general, it may be said that in each case the appeal is direct and evangelistic. There is no mistaking the loyalties of

these Methodist leaders to the essentials of the Christian Gospel and in their expression of themselves they show the background of their traditional culture. Methodism, with its emotionalism and excitement, insists on revealing itself, but let heaven be praised!

There is one interpretation against which the reviewer would like to protest. It is in E. Stanley Jones' contribution, otherwise excellent. He permits himself to write this: "That is the meaning of free enterprise—every man for himself." That, of course, is simply not true. Definitions of free enterprise might vary somewhat, but they would unite in agreeing that free enterprise essentially stands for freedom all along the line of life in contrast with authoritarian control and it would be impossible, I am quite sure, to overturn the claim that it is in those countries where free enterprise is recognized that living standards are highest and social needs most quickly and effectively met.

On the whole, this challenge to youth by the leaders in one of the chief sections of organized Christianity is most worthy.

F. F.

Various Topics

Modern Parables by Fulton Oursler. Doubleday and Company. 153 pages. \$1.75.

These are described on the cover as "stimulating tales from real life by the master story-teller of our day." There is no quarrel with the first part of that quotation. After a brief introduction, in which he rightly insists that parables need not be fictional, the author, already well known because of *The Greatest Story Ever Told*, gives us thirty-six vivid stories based on fact, some of them dealing with such outstanding figures as Houdini and Rudyard Kipling, and all of them reflecting at least one of the Christian virtues.

For any preacher who is on the search for apt and telling illustrations this book is indeed a store of treasure.

F. F.

They Sought a Country by Norman E. Nygaard. Longmans, Green & Co. \$2.50.

The characters in this story are genuine people—mostly members of two large Norwegian families who came to America shortly after the Civil War and made their homes in Minneapolis. The outstanding characters are the two fathers—the hot-headed Torger Torgerson and the mild-mannered Olaf Trygvesson.

The story moves rapidly through the common ventures of family life—birth, marriage, work and death—and comes to a "lump-in-the-throat" climax on the last page. The "David-and-Jonathan" friendship of the two men never fails or falters. Together they "fight the good fight, keep the faith, and finish the course."

Among the American descendants of these sturdy old-country Norsk, who "sought a new country," is the author of this story. I first knew Norman Nygaard as a young sergeant in the 88th Division at Camp Dodge, Iowa—a division recruited largely from Minnesota for the First World War. After many years our paths crossed again—this time as Presbyterian ministers.

Norman has once more revealed his abilities as an anecdotist and a characterizer. He has novelized his materials in true "Normanesque" manner, and they have come alive under his ready pen. I predict for both the novel and the author a bright and well-deserved future.

C. E. G.

The Cedar Block by Mary Lloyd Callaghan. Illustrated by Mathilda Keller. The Juc'son Press.

A "true-in-spirit" story of a ten-year-old boy who might have been a playmate of the boy Jesus. When Jesus and the others went to Jerusalem for the Passover, Asa was left behind because he was too young to go. Before he left, Jesus gave Asa a beautiful cedar block and loaned him a set of carving tools. On each face of the block Asa carved a design to share with Jesus the things that happened during his absence. The six incidents that inspired the designs will be recognized as sources of familiar parables of Jesus: The Lost Coin, The Lost Sheep, The Wedding Feast, and others. Juniors who read or hear these stories will find the times of Jesus coming to life and will sense how the parables were drawn from real people and real situations.

W. R. L.

Youth Program for Special Occasions by Ruth Schroeder. Abingdon-Cokesbury Press. 256 pages. \$2.50.

Here are thirty-five exceptionally fine worship services covering the entire year. Some of them are based on stories and incidents that have been gathered from other books, but the bulk of them are completely different from most such worship programs. Drama has its place and normally several take part in each of the services. For example, number 10 is for Independence Day following a simulated radio program. One for Easter has readers who share alternately in scripture passages. Number 29 is a Galilean service and gives complete material for such a program.

There are sixteen on special seasons of the year, eight on special themes, six for outdoors, and five for candle-light use. Complete as is, yet different from each other, they are not centered just around a specific story itself. The young people leading these will find more opportunity for sharing.

H. W. F.

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(From page 59)

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The Robin Sings in the Rain

A Sermon for Children by Ernest Mills*

Behold the birds of the air.—Matthew 6:26

WE do not know all that we should like to know about Jesus when he lived here on earth, and walked among men. But there are a few things that we do know, by reading

*Minister, Methodist Church, Boulder, Montana.

the story of his life as recorded in the New Testament. For one thing, we may be sure that he loved the birds. Though born in a city, he was brought up in the village of Nazareth. And it is reasonable to believe that as a boy he spent much of his time exploring the open country, studying the birds

and flowers, and finding out the secrets of nature. He must have loved the great out-of-doors, for when he began to preach and to teach, he told many stories about the things he had seen and heard: the shepherd and the sheep, the sower and the seed, the rich farmer and his big barns full of wheat, the laborers in the vineyard, the barren fig tree and many others.

One day as he was telling the people about the heavenly Father's loving care and how they should trust him more, a flock of birds flew overhead, and pointing to them, he said:

"Look at those birds—your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?"

That is to say, "If God so provides for the birds, how much more will he care for you, his children?" One day two birds were overheard by a poet as they talked to each other, and this is what he heard:

Said the robin to the sparrow—
"I should like to know
Why these human beings
Rush about and worry so?"

Said the sparrow to the robin—
"Friend, I think that it must be
That they have no heavenly Father
Such as cares for you and me."

I do not know if you have a favorite bird; perhaps you have not thought much about it. But of the different birds that we see flying around at this bright season of the year, my favorite is the robin. It could be your favorite bird as well. One reason for this is: that his cheery song is among the most welcome sounds of early spring. He has a very sweet and joyous warble, and his coming is a sure sign that winter is passing and spring is at hand. That is what we think when we see the first one just outside our windows.

The robin is also a very friendly bird. He has confiding ways and a fondness for human company. He is both trustful and cheerful and we all like him. But even though the robin is such a well-known bird, I wonder how much we really know about his nature and history. Robins are among the most widely distributed of all the birds. They are found in the summer in North America as far north as the trees grow, and to the Gulf of Mexico in the south. Many of them spend the winter in the south, as far down as Old Mexico and Central America.

Did you ever watch a bird build its nest? If so, you will know that it is done with the utmost care and with a great variety of building material—leaves, hay, straw, sticks, moss, bark, feathers, hair, wool and fur. The robins gather some coarse grass, roots and leaves for a foundation for their nest

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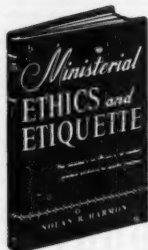
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home, and then cover it all over with mud, in order to hold it together. Sometimes, however, a heavy rain comes and washes away the nest or perhaps some thoughtless person comes along and destroys it so that they have to build it all over again.

One of their greatest enemies is the cat. More than once I have seen the feathers of a bird scattered all over, after the poor thing had been killed and devoured by a cat. I suppose that is a cat's nature. We have a cat in our home. One morning, a few weeks ago, I happened to go out in the backyard just in time to save a young bird that was learning to fly. It was partly hidden in the grass, and I saw the cat getting ready to make a final attack on the almost helpless creature. I chased the cat away and then went over to where the bird was hiding, and as I tried to pick him up, he flew away to a place of safety. I do not know where the mother bird was, for ordinarily when the young are in danger, she is there to protect them. It could be that the little bird had gone too far beyond the mother's observation and protection. That happens sometimes, not only with birds but with boys and girls as well.

Now what lessons may we learn from the robin? I will briefly mention two:

First, be cheerful. I seem to recall a song about "singing in the rain." And that is just what the robin does. It sings, not only in the sunshine but also in the rain. Here is a bit of verse that I learned long ago:

It is easy enough to be pleasant
When life flows along like a song,
But the man worth while is the man
who can smile.

When everything goes dead wrong.

A Christian should be the most cheerful person anywhere, even though he does have his share of troubles, because he has Jesus for his friend. Fanny Crosby was blind most of her life and yet she wrote:

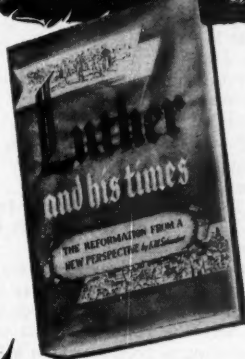
"O what a happy soul am I,
Although I cannot see;
I am resolved that in this world
Contented I will be.

How many blessings I enjoy
That other people don't;
To weep and sigh because I'm blind,
I cannot, and I won't."

Yes, a cheerful disposition and spirit is very desirable, and it brings good cheer to others. So be cheerful, like the robin, and be friendly. That is another lesson we may learn. What a friendly bird the robin is! That is why he is so well liked and admired. Now, to be friendly is one way to have friends. A very wise man whose name was Emerson once said, "The way to have a

Luther and his times

by E. G. SCHWIEBERT



From the painting of Martin Luther,
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A WORD ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Prof. E. G. Schwiebert of Wittenberg College, Ohio, has written **LUTHER AND HIS TIMES** at the suggestion of the late Prof. Preserved Smith, America's greatest Reformation Scholar, under whom he studied for three years. Prof. Schwiebert is a graduate of Capital University Seminary and was granted his Master's Thesis of "Martin Luther as a Preacher" from Ohio University in 1923. Two years were spent in the University of Wittenberg in Germany in intensive study of first-hand information for background material for **LUTHER AND HIS TIMES**.

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friend is to be one." The Bible says: "There is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother" and in one of our well-known hymns we sing: "What a friend we have in Jesus." He is the best friend of all, and we should strive to become more like him until we become true friends to everyone by being a friend of his.

Prayer: Our Father, we thank Thee for the springtime and the flowers, the birds, the bright sunshine, and especially for the friendship of Jesus, Who ever lives to help and bless us. Amen.

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What the Minister Should Know About Life Insurance

But as an individual and as pastoral counselor the minister needs to know life insurance. The information in this article is taken from a leaflet entitled "A Primer for Preachers" issued by the Presbyterian Ministers' Fund. The material is general in character and the information would apply to any company which carries adequate reserves.

What is life insurance?

It is a scientific means of

- A. Providing funds for one's family in the event of death.
- B. Saving for old age.
- C. Providing educational funds for children.

What are the main types?

A. Term insurance—insures for a limited period only. Has no cash surrender or loan values.

B. Ordinary Life—insures until death. Premiums must be paid as long as you live. But if you leave your dividends with the Fund, there will come a time when no more premiums will be required. The policy will become paid-up for its full or face amount. Further, if you reach a time in life when you no longer are able to pay your premiums, you may elect to make your policy paid-up. The amount of insurance will not be as great as the face amount of the policy, but you will have life insurance payable at death and no more premiums will be required. In addition to paid-up values, the policy has cash and loan values.

C. Limited Payment Life—premiums are paid for a specified time, frequently twenty years. Insurance is then provided without further payments.

D. Endowments—these carry the savings feature. Premiums are paid for a definite number of years. The proceeds are payable at the end of the endowment period, or at death, whichever occurs first.

What is a dividend?

This is the share of the policy owner in what the Fund saves when the death rate is lower than expected. In addition, it includes his share in any money earned on the Fund's investments in excess of what we require to pay the guaranteed cash values of policies.

How can dividends be used?

1. Paid in cash.
2. To reduce premiums.
3. To accumulate at interest.
4. To buy fully paid-up additions.
5. To make the policy paid-up earlier than specified time.
6. To mature the policy as an endow-

ment earlier than original maturity date.

Is term insurance a good buy?

Generally speaking, not for ministers. Term insurance sells for the lowest premium charged for any type of life insurance. It insures for a limited time only, varying, usually, from one to ten years. If you are alive at the end of that time you no longer have any insurance, and nothing at all to show for the money you paid out. You will probably still need insurance. At a more mature age it will cost more, and may be unobtainable. Some contracts are issued on what is called the "Renewable Term" basis. Usually the insured has the right, for a limited number of years, to renew the policy by paying, with each new period, an increased premium.

Why is Ordinary Life the most popular form?

A. It provides permanent protection at a very low cost.

B. It can be surrendered for cash, or money can be borrowed on it according to a schedule shown in the policy.

C. It earns dividends which may be used in any way desired by the owner.

D. It has paid-up and extended insurance provisions after a number of years. Paid-up insurance is insurance which requires no further premiums and is payable at death no matter when death occurs. Extended insurance expires after a definitely specified time.

What policy is best for a young man?

The Ordinary Life because

A. You may buy a large amount of insurance at a low cost.

B. You may thus have large protection during the years your family needs it most.

C. You may turn it into paid-up insurance when, on retirement, your income is reduced and your insurance needs are so great.

D. You may turn its value into an income if you need an increase in your retirement pension.

(Continued Next Month)

CHURCH SEEKS TO REMOVE CEMETERY

Bristol, Pennsylvania—The Bucks County Court has been asked by the Bristol Methodist church to approve a plan to convert its old churchyard into an income-producing business property.

Trustees of the church want to transfer about 500 bodies to the nearby community cemetery and clear the site for a supermarket, or other stores. A substantial income from rentals would far exceed the cost of disinterment, estimated at about \$110,000.

The cemetery is now a financial burden, costing \$400 a year just to keep the grass cut, the court was told.—RNS

CASUALTY LIST HEAVY FOR PAINTING PASTORS

Genoa, Nebraska—Dr. Everett E. Jackman, Methodist district superintendent, issued this call:

"Pastors mobilize! The rendezvous: West Hill parsonage. The weapons: paint brushes."

A group of ministers gathered near here and the mission was accomplished. The casualty list was nearly 100 per cent. Consumption of liniment was terrific.

Recently, the Swedish Methodist church merged with the regular Methodist church and the buildings were abandoned. Except for the need of a paint job the parsonage was in excellent condition. Dr. Jackman decided to make it a district retreat center for the Methodist Youth Fellowship, Young Adult Fellowship and other church groups.—RNS

CHURCH BELL TOLLS FOR NAP TIME

Cynthiana, Indiana—At one o'clock every afternoon the bells of the local Congregational church ring out and mothers know it is time to put their children down for a nap to guard against polio.

The custom started after Jerry Weber, 14-year-old son of Oliver Weber, pastor of the church, was stricken with polio during last summer's epidemic.—RNS

COURT OUSTS PASTOR FROM CHURCH

Kansas City, Kansas—Judge William H. McHale of Wyandotte county district court ruled here in favor of a faction of the Argentine Baptist Church who were plaintiffs in a suit to bar the Rev. Del Fehsenfeld from continuing as the church's pastor.

The suit charged that Mr. Fehsenfeld had departed from accepted doctrines since he came to the church last September. It also charged that he refused

Fruits of Faith



By Emile Cailliet—J. Lennart Cedarleaf—Nels F.S. Ferre—Georgia Harkness—Costen J. Harrell—Arthur Wentworth Hewitt—Thomas Franklyn Hudson—Edward T. Ramsdell—Mack B. Stokes—Miriam Van Waters—Carroll A. Wise—et al. Edited by J. Richard Spann.

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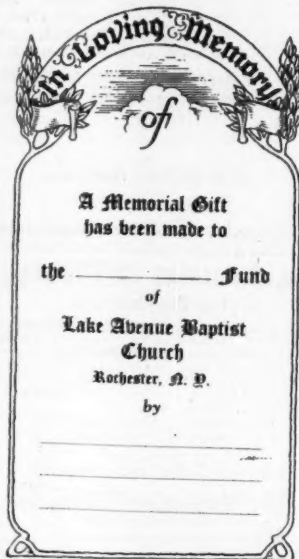
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Is just to tell the world God reigns
in beauty.

Some men say God is limited in power,
Yet I know, as I watch the storm clouds
lower

And hear the rolls of thunder earth-
ward crash,
To limit Him, presumptuous man, is
rash.

I do not know why God allows such
pain,
Such war and strife that fires the world
again;

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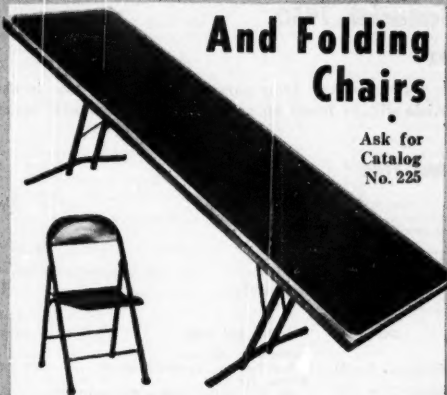
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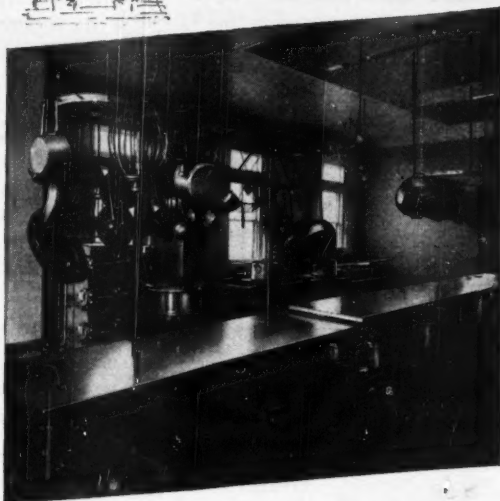
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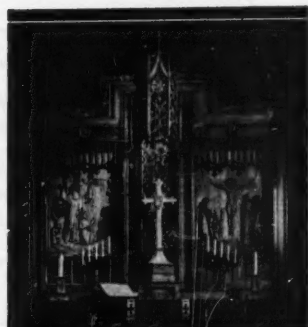
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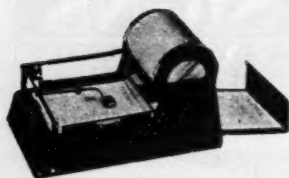
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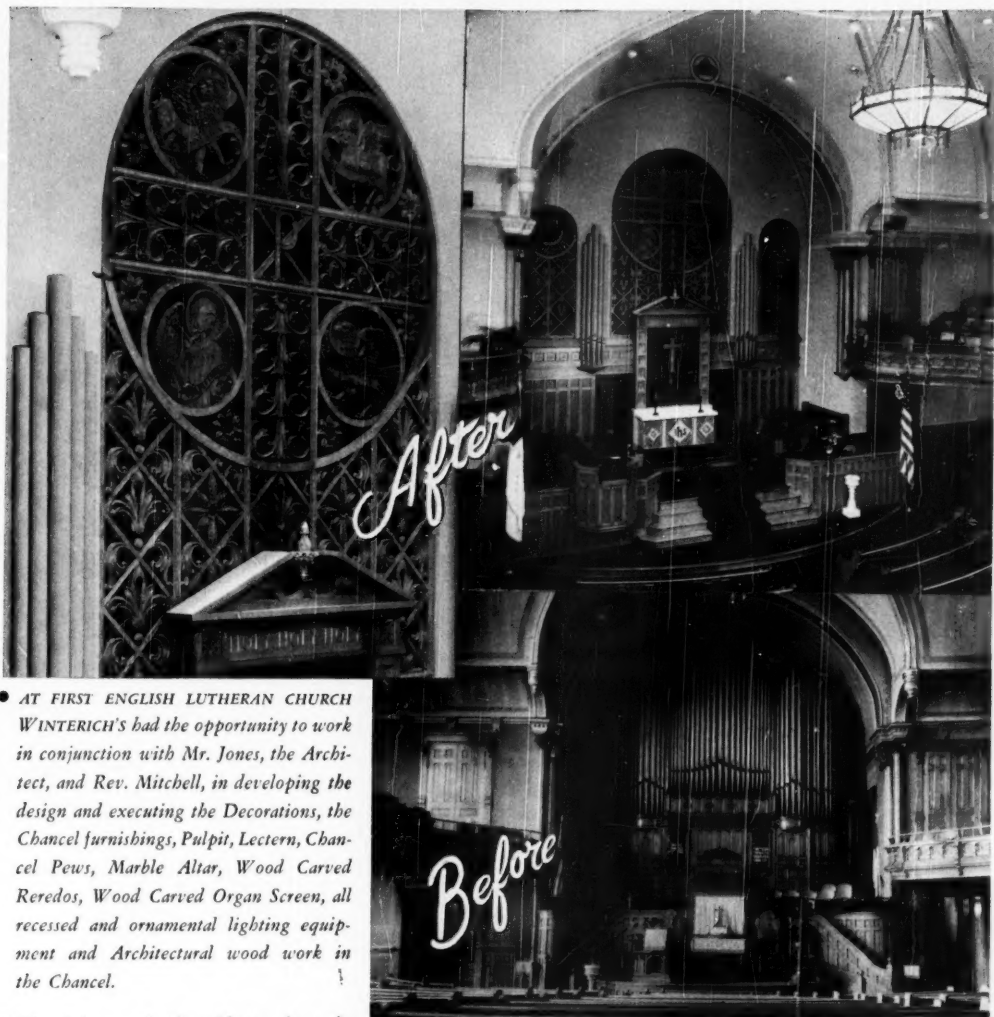
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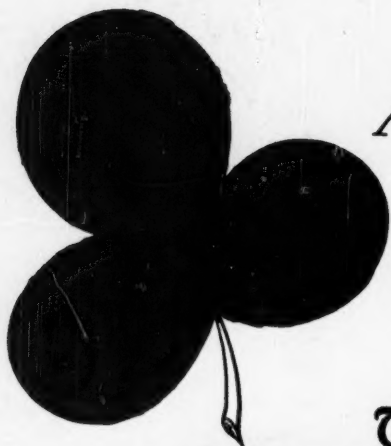
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